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WILLIS'S

CURRENT NOTES:

A SERIES OF ARTICLES

ON

Antiquities, Biography, Heraldry, History, Languages, Literature, Natural History, Curious Customs, &c.,

SELECTED FROM

ORIGINAL LETTERS AND DOCUMENTS

ADDRESSED DURING THE YEAR

1855,

TO THE PUBLISHER,

GEORGE WILLIS,

GREAT PIAZZA, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON.

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WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. XLIX.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [JANUARY, 1855.

PAINTER'S PALACE OF PLEASURE.

SHAKESPEARE borrowed largely from this rich storehouse of "Pleasant Histories and Excellent Novels, Tragicall Matters, and other morall Argument," for the plots of his dramas, or the enrichment of his incidents; and there are few books in early English literature, so attractive in their import, or more difficult to obtain in a clean, sound, and unexceptionable condition than the volumes under notice.

A circumstance which adds to its rarity, and consequently the difficulty of obtaining the two volumes, either together, or in a co-equal condition, is the fact that each were printed at separate times. The first was printed in 1566, again in 1569, and again in 1575. The second in 1567, and again in 1580, but the title is not dated. The Harleian copy, which is noticed in Oldys' Catalogue of that superb, nay, national library, after it was purchased by Thomas Osborne, at Gray's Inn Gate, for 13,000*l.*, a much less sum than had been expended on the binding of a portion, was formed of the editions, vol. I. 1575, and vol. II. 1567. See Catalogue, 1744, vol. III., Romances and Novels, numb. 6375. The binding red morocco, with richly tooled corners.

Whether Mr. Hans Stanley was then purchaser or not, does not appear, but he presented the work to the immortal Garrick, with these lines inscribed on the fly-leaf of the first volume—

From these dark Legends of a barbarous age,
The self-taught SHAKESPEAR drew his Tragic page,
From each faint portrait, each imperfect line,
He traced Othello, Juliet, Cymbeline;
His wilder muse succeeding criticks foil'd,
Fruitless their author to explain they toil'd.
'Twas thine, O GARRICK, in each lofty part,
To write a comment in the anxious heart;
By skilful accent, gesture, voice, and mien,
To show the beauties of each rapt'rous scene,
What he to Cynthio, or to Boccace ow'd,
Thy buskin on the British bard bestow'd.

Below these dedicatory lines, Garrick, thus highly complimented, wrote—

The above lines were written by Mr. Hans Stanley, who gave me this book. D. G.

Upon Mrs. Garrick's decease, the library of her husband was dispersed by public auction, when this copy was purchased by Mr. Jolley for 28*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, and on the 16th inst. was, in the last day's sale of his books, purchased by Mr. Lilly for 18*l.*

VERITAS TEMPORIS FILIA.

YOUR Correspondent, M. R. C., asks why Queen Mary the First adopted this motto as a legend on her coins, adding that it was one "to which Mary at no period of her life was entitled." It must not be assumed that the Sovereign ever suggests a legend for the coinage, on the contrary, she, or he, merely approves or rejects what the Master of the Mint, or the designer of the medal, under the sanction of the Lords of the Treasury, may have proposed. The legend on the shillings of her predecessor, King Edward the Sixth, is TIMOR DOMINE FONS VITÆ, the family motto of the Butlers, Earls of Dunboyne; and the present Earl informed the writer that one of his ancestors was Master of the Mint in the reign of that Prince, and as a record of the fact placed his own motto on the coinage. May not that of Queen Mary have had some similar origin? It is much the fashion to imagine a Popish origin for every event of Mary's reign, and Mr. Hawkins, in his Silver Coins of England, ventures on this conjectural explanation: "The motto was adopted by the persuasion of her Romish clergy in allusion to her endeavours to restore the abominations of Popery, which had been in a great degree suppressed by her predecessors." B. N.

The inconsistency of this assertion will be apparent in reverting to facts. Sir James Butler, who married Joan, daughter of Pierce Butler, Earl of Ormonde, died in Jan. 1533, leaving Edmund his son and heir, ennobled in 1541 by King Henry the Eighth, as Baron Dunboyne. It is true, the armorial motto appears to be TIMOR DOMINI FONS VITÆ, and that legend is attached to the shillings of King Edward the Sixth, from 1547 to 1551, but not the slightest evidence is to be found that connects Lord Dunboyne with the mint affairs of either monarch, in England or Ireland, in which latter country he seems to have been a resident, and married Julia, who after a month's marriage, was the widow of Gerald 'the red haired,' fifteenth baron Kerry killed in Desmond, August 1, 1550. Edward, Baron Dunboyne, was deceased in 1566.

The legend on the shillings of Edward the Sixth was derived from the Vulgate version of the Bible, Proverbs, xiv. 27. The editions by Henry Stephens, of Paris, being then very popular among the Reformers.—Ed.

POPE'S SKULL has the animal passions strongly developed, nor are the organs of veneration or benevolence very prominent; it is, however, devoid of what is vulgarly designated "bumps and lumps," and is singularly pre-eminent for the harmonised disposition of leading characteristics. The operation of the brain upon the skull evinces indisputably how active while living were the poet's exercise of ideality and the reflective powers.

January 10. J. D. H.

SHAKESPEARE AND CAMDEN SOCIETIES.

In Current Notes, 1852, pp. 31, 39, were notices of the termination of the Percy Society, and the final adjustment of its pecuniary affairs, honourable to all parties by whom they had been conducted.

There are, or were, two other similar Societies; the Shakespeare Society and the Camden Society, concerning which little *officially* has been heard recently, so as to learn whether they are defunct, or only in a state of suspended animation. As regards the Shakespeare, it has certainly been stated in several booksellers' catalogues that it is closed, and the stock of books and the Shakespeare portraits sold off; but I am not aware that any announcement of such being the case, has been officially made, or any account of the funds furnished to the members.

It would be satisfactory to the subscribers to receive any information or explanation regarding these matters, through the medium of your useful and entertaining Current Notes. F. R. A.

The SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY ceased at the close of 1853; the reason stated, that the Honorary Officials were desirous of retiring. In March 1854, the entire stock of the works, printed at the expense of the members, was sold by public auction for about 460*l.*, the disposal, to Mr. Skeffington, of the remaining impressions of the Ellesmere Shakspeare portrait was a private arrangement. No official account of the affairs of the Society, or its termination, has been prepared for the members, nor does it, on enquiry, appear that any such statement is contemplated.

Our Correspondent may rest assured hopes are entertained, that the CAMDEN SOCIETY is about recovering from its supposed state of suspended animation, by the following signs. During 1854, the members have received the "Letters of Lady Brilliana Harley," and the first part of "Bp. Swinford's Household Roll." Some Extracts from Grants temp. Edward the Fifth, are promised during this month, January 1855; and also, the Report of the Council elected May 2, 1853, with the report of the Auditors upon the Society's receipts and expenditure "from the 1st of April, 1853, to the 31st March, 1854."

The Camden Society appears to have lost of its phalanx of members, nearly one half. It is lamentable to reflect, how perverted have been the means and resources of this once leading and embodied power of deservedly distinguished men of all professions. Had the subscriptions and the labours of the members, located as they were and are in all the counties, been devoted to the enlargement and reconstruction of Camden's Britannia, they would have conferred especial honour on the name of the Historian whose celebrity they usurped to emblazon a notoriety which they have but faintly attempted to maintain. Such a work would have resulted in establishing an eternal national monument, and created a halo of imperishable glory on the Society; or, had that been deemed too much, a republication of Horsley's Britannia Romana, with additions based upon the annotated copies, by Professor Ward and others, in the British Museum Library, would really have rendered an important service in aid of Historical Literature, while on the contrary, many of their distributed emanations are found on book-stalls neglected and unheeded, a memorable memento of the mischiefs of inefficient or misdirected talent, and ample pecuniary means.

PHŒNICIAN PALEOGRAPHY AND LITERATURE.

On the observations of the Editor, who appears to lean to the general opinions of Oriental scholars, on the subject of Paleography and Phœnician literature, but on which a volume might be written; attached to the article in Current Notes, vol. iii. p. 73, I proffer the following remarks:—

First. Herodotus says the Phœnicians came as colonists to the Syrian coasts from the Erythræan seas. Strabo, that they came from the Persian gulf. Vallancey, that the Phœnicians and the Persians were of the same family; and as to the language called Phœnician, I can assert it was used over a much wider extent of country than was occupied by the Arabians and Persians. In this language, which in fact resembles the Chinese, in its almost total absence of grammatical inflections, are written those ancient remains which have of late caused considerable sensation throughout the literary world, viz., the cuneiform monuments of Babylon, Nineveh, Persepolis, and Behistan. On the north part of the pillar of Alahabad, we find, in a character not as yet deciphered, as I am aware by any but myself, a history which appears to be an account of the deluge, and describing the spot where Noah was buried. See Asiatic Researches, vol. vii. p. 180, pl. 6. All these writings are to be read from left to right. May not this Phœnician language, this older dialect of the Arabic have been almost universal in the days of Heber? Again, may it not have been remodelled about six hundred years after, in the days of Ishmael, to somewhat in its present form?

Secondly, Gesenius in his Monumenta Phœnicia, has numerous specimens of this language; and the Sinaic Valley has supplied 178 inscriptions in the same language. See Trans. of Royal Society of Literature, vol. ii. part 1, plates. In these inscriptions, written some before, and others soon after the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt, one word occurs more than one hundred and forty times, a sufficient evidence to prove that for the most part, I speak cautiously, and think I may say altogether, Phœnician inscriptions must be read from left to right. The one word alluded to is in numb. 142, ס נ א sna, Mount Sina. The first letter is the Hebrew, *samech*, or *s*; the second is the Syriac and Arabic, *nun* or *n*; and the third, is the Samaritan and Runic *alaph*, or *a*; sometimes the letters are joined as in numb. 2, where it occurs three times; and at others, the letters are somewhat altered in form, but always distinguishable, even to a tyro. Surely, this word proves that all the sentences must be read from *left to right;* and also, that the writing is made up of MIXED ALPHABETS.

Thirdly, I have a printed copy of the Magni Atlantis et soubmersæ Atlantidis Reliquiem, called Phœnician, but which I think to be Runic. The heading "Atlan," is from right to left, but the narrative is alternately up and down, in eighteen lines of two feet one inch in length. This professes to have been written seven hundred years after the deluge, which it describes in most poetical language, and in which are mentioned as

situated in the mountain passes of the Atlantic range, inns for the refreshment and rest of travellers. The writing on this Atlantic monument has been considered to be "pseudophœnicia et spuria," but those, who with the late E. H. Barker, considered it as a forgery, knew not how to decypher it. See Gesenii Scripturæ Linguæque Phœniciæ, cap. ix., where the first sign on the right hand at the lower end of the inscription, being a hieroglyph, is read as a letter, and some few of the letters themselves not being understood, no sense has been made of the whole inscription, but its internal evidence is quite sufficient to prove it *not a forgery*.

Southwick, near Oundle, Jan. 15. T. R. Brown.

Misquotation.—Butler makes the knight while reasoning with his lady love, observe,

> For what is worth in any thing,
> But so much money as 'twill bring?
> *Hudibras*, Part II. Canto i., Edit. 1678, p. 219.

This couplet has since undergone a slight change,

> For what's the worth of any thing,
> But so much money as 'twill bring.
> *Athenian Sport*, 1724, 8vo. p. 154.

But a more recent adaptation in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, Sept. 1854, p. 262, exhibits a phraseology widely differing from the original.

> The value of a thing
> Be just so much as it will bring.

Dublin, Jan. 1. A. S.

ABUSES IN THE ARMY.

Cradock, in his Literary and Miscellaneous Memoirs, vol. i. p. 171, referring to Lord Chancellor Erskine, says, "Erskine sent me his pamphlet on the Abuses of the Army, and we afterwards examined together his Remarks on Annuities, they were both printed by Tom Davies of Russell Street, Covent Garden."

These productions of the noble author do not seem to be known, at least they are not to me; but, as it *is* pretty well known that abuses in the army have not ceased to exist, it would be curious to see whether they in any way differ from those which engaged the attention of Erskine, and I shall be glad if you, or any of your readers, will furnish some information on the subject. F. R. A.

AMBRY AND EFFIGY IN AIRLIE KIRK.

The Ambry, *scot.*, almerie, or almorie, a recess in churches for depositing the alms for the poor, is of considerable antiquity. Du Cange defines it "the Cæpe-hus of Elfric; a cupboard, storehouse, cabinet, etc.," in that sense, closets, or presses, for containing food and articles for domestic uses are generally known. Every church or chapel in the days of Papal domination, had its ambry; and were frequently hewn from one stone, having in front, by way of security, a wooden door, with iron hinges and bolts. A few of these ambries are still found about the remains of old kirks, vestiges which very laudably have been preserved long after the old fanes were demolished; but none of those in the counties of Angus or Mearns, present a better representation of the old ambry than that at Airlie, which is built into the porch on the west side of the parish kirk, situated in the south-western part of Angus.

The front, decorated with the sculptured denotations of the five Passion wounds of Christ, shows by the broken moulding, the former sockets for the embedding of the iron fastenings. On the wall within, cut into the stone, are the initials a. f. with three crescents, the armorial bearings of the family of Fenton, originally from the border, but who were the lords of the lands and barony of Baikie, in the parish of Airlie, in 1291, if not before, and were extinct in the male line about the middle of the fifteenth century.*

Possibly the ambry was made at the expense of one of the lords of Baikie; or, during the incumbency of one of the family, as parson of this kirk, the initials and arms being intended to denote the period.

The same symbols of our Lord's Passion, represented on the ambry, are also found on the coping stone of an old burying aisle, with the addition of the Scourge, the pillar to which Christ was bound, holy lance, and the pincers; with carvings of the fleur-de-lis, surmounted by a coronet. These, I infer, from their superior delicacy of execution, are of later date to the emblems on the front of the ambry. The coping stone is said to have

* Nisbet, referring to Haddington's Collections from the Registers, describes the arms of Fenton of Baiky, *arg.* three crescents, *gules*. William Fenton, Lord Baiky, is so designated in a perambulation with Alexander Ogle, Sheriff of Angus, in 1410. By their arms in our old registers being *arg.*, three crescents *gules*, Fenton of Ogile, Fenton of Carden, and Fenton of Kelly, were cadets of Fenton of Baikey. *System of Heraldry*, edit. 1804, vol. i. p. 92.

been taken from the old kirk, which was demolished in 1783.

Built into the west gable of the kirk is a gaunt human effigy, about three feet in height, but much mutilated. The writer of the New Statistical Account of the Parish, 1843, describes it as a representation of St. John the Baptist, to whom, he adds, the church was originally dedicated. The idea is certainly erroneous, for apart from a small hamlet of houses, with a fine spring and knoll, close to the kirk, known by the name of St. Madden, there is extant in the charter-chest at Cortachy Castle, a document bearing date 1447, in which mention is made of "the bell of the Kirk of St. Madden of Airlie,"* and he doubtless was the patron saiut of the kirk. His festival is held on May 17, and as he is specially said to have devoted certain days to the celebration of the Eucharist and the Passion of Christ, the emblems on the ambry and coping-stone have most probably reference to that tradition. It may, however, be noticed, though the parish kirk was dedicated to St. Madden, there was formerly, about a mile to the south-west a chapel, which had for its patron saint, St. John, and to which William de Fenton, in 1362, presented the adjoining lands of Lunross;† yet to this, the statue cannot by the most distant probability have any reference.

No description, or print of ancient armour, known to the writer, represents the peculiarity observable in the singularly formed apron of plate mail, as shewn on this figure. The carving appears to indicate scale armour, small round plates of iron, lapping one over the other like fish scales, and terminating in a point, to which is pendant an oval or heart-shaped ornament. Some Correspondent of Current Notes may possibly be able to explain this curious appendage of old costume. The animal on the book is possibly intended to represent a lamb; hence, it may be inferred, the fore finger of the right hand points to "the Lamb's book of life," an allegory not unworthy of a much later time than that to which the statue appears to belong.

The Fenton estate in the fifteenth century became the property of the younger sons of Lindsay, Earl of Crawford, and Halkett of Pitfirran. Baikie Castle stood on a rising ground, near the west side of the loch of Baikie, but has long been demolished, and a new mansion, a little to the south, erected some years since.

Brechin. A. J.

MEN often make others unfaithful by thinking them so.—*Seneca.*

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* Spalding Club Miscellany, vol. iv. p. 118.

† Reg. Mag. Sigilli, p. 25.

PAISLEY BLACK BOOK.

CAN any of the readers of Current Notes furnish particulars as to the authorship, contents, and present place of deposit of this book? It is not mentioned under the head of "Paisley" in Bishop Nicolson's Historical Library, Macray's Manual of British Historians, or in the Cottonian, Harleian, or Lansdowne Catalogues.

Ashton-under-Lyne, Jan. 15. J. R. C.

Refer to Crawford's History of the Shire of Renfrew, first printed in 1710, continued by William Semple, printed at Paisley, 1782, 4to. p. 281, where it is said, "the monks of the abbey of Paisley wrote a Chronicle of Scotland, called the Black Book of Paisley, of which an authentic copy was burned in the Abbey of Holyrood House, during the English usurpation." This assertion is derived from Dunlop's Description of the Shire of Renfrew. Another copy is noticed in Sibbald's Theatrum Scotiæ, as having been in the President Sir Robert Spottiswood's library, whence it was taken by General Lambert, and presented by him to Colonel, afterwards Thomas, Lord Fairfax. There are here also other references respecting this supposed record, of which after all, Chalmers, in his Caledonia, vol. III., p. 125, quoting Bp. Nicolson's Scottish Historical Library, p. 93, thus summarily disposes—"The monks of Paisley are said to have written a Chronicle of Scotland, which was called the *Black Book of Paisley*, from the colour of its cover; but this like the *Black Book of Scone*, appears to have been merely a transcript of Fordun's Scotichronicon." ED.

WEIGHT OF TOBACCO SMOKE DETERMINED.

HOWELL in his Letters, Book III. Letter 7, tells the story of Sir Walter Raleigh winning a wager of Queen Elizabeth, by ascertaining the weight of smoke in a pound of tobacco. The incident was recently noticed in an hebdomadal contemporary, but neither the communicant, nor the editor allude to the fact of the trick having been practised more than a thousand years before, as we find in the Dialogues of Lucian, who died in the year 180.

In Franklin's translation, 1781, 8vo. vol. III. p. 88, we read, "Somebody asked him (Demonax) one day in a scoffing manner, this question—Pray, if you burn a thousand pounds of wood, how many pounds will there be of smoke? Weigh the ashes, said he, and all the rest will be smoke." F. R. A.

Howell's Letters are fictions, written by him while confined in the Fleet Prison for debt, and the story of the wager with the Queen doubtless originated in one of his literary embellishments. Lucian's Dialogues were translated by Hickes, and printed at Oxford in 1634, where possibly Howell met with the jocosery, or, as he was quite capable, he read it in one of the Latin versions, and, adopting the tradition of Raleigh's being the introducer of tobacco from Virginia, made it an illustration of his intimacy with her Majesty, in compliment to whom that country was so named. ED.

THE following beautiful lines, as yet unpublished, are written by that eminent servant of God, and friend of man, WILLIAM BENGO COLLYER. They are in his own autograph, on the fly leaf of Cowper's Table Talk and other Poems, a volume in my possession, and highly prized by me.

Canonbury, Jan. 18. GEORGE DANIEL.

THE DEATH OF COWPER.

The swan, 'tis fabled, sweetly sings
With her expiring breath—
O Cowper! had'st thou touch'd the strings
Of music in *thy* death!

What glorious, what mellifluous strains
Of harmony were there,
Instead of agonising pains,
The horrors of despair.

And was it then indeed *despair*,
O'erthrew that noble mind?
Ah no! insanity was there,
With genius high combin'd.

O had the darkness pass'd away,
Before the final scene,
What glimpses of eternal day,
Had then reflected been.

Then how his raptur'd soul of fire
Had kindled into praise;
And struck while here an angel's lyre,
And learn'd a seraph's lays!

This was denied—to mental gloom
An unresisting prey,
Thro' midnight shadows of the tomb,
His trackless journey lay.

A death that wore so stern a frown,
Then why should we deplore;
The sun that went in darkness down,
Hath risen to set no more.

Peckham, Dec. 1841. W. B. COLLYER.

MARY RUSSELL MITFORD, born at Alresford, in Hampshire, Dec. 16, 1786, authoress of *Our Village*, and other popular works, died at Swallowfield, near Reading, on Wednesday, the 10th inst., in her sixty-ninth year. These dates are based on the beginning of a letter addressed to one of her most intimate friends—

"Swallowfield, Dec. 16, 1854.

"My dear Friend. This is a day I never thought to see again—my 68th birth-day."

GARRICKIANA.—Mr. O. Smith, the eminent comedian, having been obliged by deafness and declining health, to relinquish his connection with the stage, which he has trodden with so much credit for upwards of half a century, his library and choice collection of MSS. and Engravings illustrative of the Drama, will be sold by auction by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson, at the close of next month. His GARRICKIANA, illustrative of Garrick and his contemporaries, comprising almost every known engraving connected therewith, will form one of the most interesting features.

ROSEMARY BLOSSOMS.

Let some kindly hand make up a gathering.

MY thoughts have been wandering in scented chambers, and I wish some one would edit on paper of appropriate blush, the association of Rosemary, Lavender, and Rue—three favourites, long popularly united. In the old music books, of an elementary character, the air of "Lavender's blue," is frequently found, but it has grown vulgar, and both the words and tune are descending into mere traditionary matters—

Lavender's blue, diddle, diddle, rosemary's green,
When you are king, diddle, diddle, I shall be queen.
Who told you so, diddle, diddle, who told you so?
'Twas my own heart, diddle, diddle, that told me so.

Call up your men, diddle, diddle, set them to work,
Some with a rake, diddle, diddle, some with a fork,
Some to make hay, diddle, diddle, some to grind corn,
Whilst you and I, diddle, diddle, keep ourselves warm.

If you should die, diddle, diddle, as it may hap,
You shall be buried, diddle, diddle, under the tap.
Who told you so, diddle, diddle, pray tell me why?
Because you may drink, diddle, diddle, when you are dry.

The last stanza seems to have been suggested by the old monkish rhymes, ascribed to Walter de Mapes, the boosey Archdeacon of Oxford—

Mihi est propositum in taberna mori;
Ut cum venerint Angelorum chori,
Dicant, Deus, propitius huic potatori!

which may be thus rendered—

May it be my good hap,
To die close by the tap!
That when call'd away,
Sweet cherubs may say,
God, be kind to this fellow!
For he lived and died mellow.

Gerard, gardener to Lord Burleigh, notices in his Herbal, Rosemary grew in Languedoc in such plenty that the inhabitants burned scarcely any other fuel. In the gardens of Italy and England, he adds, they made hedges of it as an ornament, and it was called Rosemarinus Coronaria, "because women have been accustomed to make crowns and garlands thereof." Hence the propriety of its standing for the queen's emblem in the old oral stanzas. Gerard, moreover, mentions it serving as spice in German kitchens and in *other cold countries*, in his day, as well as used in wine for inebriating, and as oil for medicinal purposes.

And hereupon follows another enumeration of blessings:

Rosemary green,
And Lavender blue,
Thyme and sweet Margerum,
Hyssop and rue.

Rosemary has long been considered as a symbol of remembrance, and was anciently supposed to strengthen the memory; prescriptions are found in the old medicinal treatises for that purpose. Perdita, in Shakespeare's *Winter's Tale*, act iv. sc. 3; with the flowers

presented to Polyxenes and the guests, as a welcome to the sheep-shearing, adds—

> For you there's rosemary and rue; these keep
> Seeming and savour all the winter long.

Ophelia, too, presents Laertes a sprig of rosemary, observing—

> There's rosemary, that's for remembrance;*
> Pray you love remember!
>
> *Hamlet*, act iv. sc. 5.

So Drayton, in his ninth eclogue, has lines to the same purpose—

> Him rosemary his sweetheart [sent], whose intent
> Is that he her should in remembrance have.

On the festive occasion at Christmas, of bringing in the boar's head, at Queen's College, Oxford, and elsewhere, various carols were sung. One printed by Wynkyn de Worde, in 1521, commences thus—

> *Caput afri defero,*
> *Reddens laudes domino.*
> The bore's head in hand bring I,
> With garlands gay, and rosemary;
> I pray ye all sing merrily,
> *Qui estis in convivio.*

At weddings it was usual to dip the rosemary in the wine cup, and drink to the health of the newly married couple. So in Jaspar Mayne's *City Match*—

> Before we divide
> Our army, let us dip our rosemaries
> In one rich bowl of sack, to this brave girl,
> And to the gentleman.

And in Killigrew's *Parson's Wedding*, is a similar allusion—

> Go, get you in there, and let your husband dip the rosemary.

Sometimes it made a garnish for the meats. In Beaumont and Fletcher's *Knight of the Burning Pestle*, 1613, 4to. it is said—

> I will have no great store of company at the wedding, a couple of neighbours and their wives; and we will have a capon in stew'd broth with marrow, and a good piece of beef, stuck with rosemary. Act v. sc. 1.

Rosemary was also adopted as an essential at funerals, possibly for its odour, and as a token of remembrance of the deceased—

> And lavender is passing sweet,
> And so's the rosemary;
> And yet they deck the winding sheet,
> Beneath the dark yew-tree.

Friar Lawrence on the discovery of Juliet's corpse, bids the bystanders—

> Dry up your tears, and stick your rosemary
> On this fair corse; and as the custom is,
> In all her best array bear her to church.
>
> *Romeo and Juliet*, act iv. sc. v.

Shakespeare was here referring to the custom as observed in England. On some occasions rosemary was buried with the dead. When to make room for the burial of an ordinary gentlewoman, the body of William Parr, the brother of Queen Catherine, was dug up in the choir of the collegiate church at Warwick, "it was found perfect, the skin entire, dried to the bones, with rosemary and bays in the coffin, fresh and green."*

Cartwright also alludes to the custom, on the bearing of the body to the grave—

> Prithee see they have
> A sprig of rosemary, dipp'd in common water,
> To smell at as they walk along the streets.
>
> *The Ordinary*, 1651, 8vo. act v. sc. 1.

The practice is noticed so late as the time of Gay, who in his Shepherd's Week, describing Blouselinda's funeral, says—

> To show their love, the neighbours far and near
> Follow'd with wistful look the damsel's bier.
> Sprigg'd rosemary the lads and lasses bore,
> While dismally the Parson walked before.
> Upon her grave the rosemary they threw,
> The daisie, butter-flower, and endive blue.
>
> Fifth Pastoral; The Dirge, lines 133-138.

Henry Kirke White too, bade the rosemary "scatter about his tomb—a sweet decaying smell;" and the Rosemary Lane of Newcastle, anciently known as St. John's Chare, if in name only, keeps watch and ward over the graveyard of the beloved apostle.

During the civil commotions in the reign of King Charles the First, it appears to have escaped notice, a sprig of rosemary was the distinctive badge of the Parliamentarians. Baillie, in his diary, Dec. 2, 1640, writes—

> On Saturday, Burton and Prynne came through most of the City triumphantly; never here such a show; about a thousand horses, and above a hundred coaches, with a world of foot, every one with a rosemary branch.

Nathan Drake, in his manuscript Diary of the first siege of Pontefract, in 1644, in which he was a volunteer

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* In the first volume of Evans's Collection of Old Ballads, edit. 1810, is reprinted from "a Handeful of pleasant Delites, 1584," duod., a ballad entitled, "A Nosegaie alwaies sweet for Lovers to send for Tokens of Love at New Yeare's Tide." The third verse commences—

> Lavender is for Lovers true;

but the lines in the fourth, beginning—

> Rosemary is for remembrance,
> Between us day and night,
> Wishing that I might always have
> You present in my sight.

are supposed to have been suggestive of the poetry in Ophelia's plaintive ditty.

* Dugdale's Baronage, as quoted by Nicolson and Burn.

defender, expresses the apprehension of an immediate assault by the roundheads; the enemy's horse being "drawn up in the parke, and many of their foote with roasemary in theire hattes."

One of the marks for the archers in Finsbury Fields, was named the Rosemary Branch; and in an old map the position is represented as a tree, inscribed *Ros' Bra'ch*, but in 1737, here was a hostelry, called the Rosemary Branch, or *Nevil's House*. It was long celebrated as a place of public entertainment, but at length having become part of Walker's lead-works, a new Rosemary Branch was in 1783, erected just beyond the former, at the junction of the parishes of Shoreditch and Islington.

W. HYLTON DYER LONGSTAFFE, F.S.A.

Gateshead, Jan. 4.

IN your Current Notes, for December, you have treated your readers with a specimen of Belfry Poetry: similar may be found in many belfries. Allow me to send you a copy from a tower in Cornwall. Perhaps some of your readers will be able to multiply other variations of Belfry Poetry.

H. T. ELLACOMBE.

Rectory, Clyst St. George, Jan. 17.

VERSES IN LANDULPH CHURCH BELFRY, CORNWALL.

Let awful silence first proclaimed be,
And Praise unto the Holy Trinity;
Then Honour give unto our noble King,
So with a blessing let us raise this ring.
Hark how the chirping treble sings most clear,
And covering Tom comes rowling in the rear;
And now the bells are up, come let us see,
What laws are best to keep sobriety.
Who swears, or curses, or in choleric mood,
Quarrels, or strikes, although he draw no blood;
Who wears his hat, or spur, or o'erturns a bell,
Or, by unskilful handling, mars a peal;
Let him pay sixpence for each single crime,
'Twill make him cautious 'gainst another time;
But if the sexton's fault an hind'rance be,
We call from him a double penalty.
If any should our Parson disrespect,
Or Warden's orders any time neglect,
Let him be always held in full disgrace,
And ever more be banished this place;
So when the bells are ceased, then let us sing,
God bless the Church—God save the King.

PATTERN VICTORIA FLORINS.

THOUGH the want of a coin of a value between the shilling and half-crown had long been felt, it is only within the last few years that it was determined to supply it. It was considered also a favourable opportunity for an attempt at the introduction of a decimal system of coinage. In the present case considerable trouble was taken and many trials even made before one suitable to the taste of the exalted individuals whose pleasure is taken on the subject was produced. The success of the experiment has not, unfortunately, answered the expectations of the public, while the mistakes arising from the slight difference in size between it and the half-crown leads to continual dissatisfaction. Few persons are aware of the varied patterns which were made in the hope of gratifying the desire of making a handsome coin, but the collection of choice patterns and rare coins, of Mr. Chaffers, 20, Old Bond Street,* has enabled the writer to enumerate the following varieties—

Obv. the Queen's head, crowned, to the left, VICTORIA REGINA, 1848. *Reverse*, an oak wreath, the prong of a trident, from the early coins of Greece, placed within. ONE DECADE. Above the wreath, 100 MILLES. Below the wreath, ONE-TENTH OF A POUND, as shewn in the woodcut.

Obv. the same. *Reverse*, the same, but in place of One Decade, are the words ONE CENTUM.

Obv. the same. *Reverse*, within the wreath, ONE FLORIN, and below it, ONE-TENTH OF A POUND.

Obv. the Queen's head, to the left, a riband binds the hair, VICTORIA REGINA; 1848 below the head. *Rev.* the field, within a quatrefoil, occupied by a shapeless V. R. conjoined, the Shamrock, Rose, and Thistle, in the three upper quarters; the Prince's plume in the lower compartment. The legend, ONE CENTUM. ONE-TENTH OF A POUND, as shewn in the woodcut.

Obv. the same. *Reverse* the same, but in place of One Centum, are the words ONE DECADE.

Obv. the same. *Reverse* the same, but the legend is, ONE FLORIN; and below, ONE TENTH OF A POUND.

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* The recently published Catalogue by Mr. Chaffers, will be found deserving the attention of every numismatist, or family, in which coins are as acquisitions, considered matters of taste or recreation.

Obv. the same. *Reverse*, the same; the legend ONE FLORIN; and below, are the words TWO SHILLINGS.

Obv. a third variety, the Queen's Head, laureated, the legend is the same. *Rev.* four shields crowned, charged with the arms of England, in the first and third; Scotland and Ireland in the second and fourth; a double rose in the centre. On the left of each shield are the Rose, Thistle, and Shamrock. The upper legend, ONE DIME; in the lower, ONE TENTH OF A POUND; as represented in the woodcut.

Obv. the same. *Reverse* the same, but the words one dime in the upper legend, are displaced by the words ONE FLORIN.

These constitute no less than nine varieties of pattern pieces; the first issue of the florin was a junction of the dies, the obverse first shown of the Queen's head crowned, the date altered to 1849, with the reverse of the ninth pattern. The omission of the initials D. G. or DEI GRATIA, on the obverse, combined with the dumpy character of the piece, occasioned much dissatisfaction.

Another variety, struck on a wider flan, has the obverse legend in old English characters, **Victoria : d : g : brit : reg : f : d : mdccclviii.** *Reverse*, the arms as before, but a quadrupled trefoil ornament displaces the double rose in the centre. The legend, **One Florin**, and below, **one-tenth of a pound.** The high rim in which they are struck deprives them of their metallic sound as silver, and occasions many to be doubted as counterfeits.

CONCORDANCE.—The first to any portion of the English Bible was entitled "A Concordance of the New Testament, most necessary to be had in the handes of all soche as desire the communication of any place contayned in ye New Testament. Imprinted by me T. Gibson, 1535, sm. 8vo." From the Epistle to the reader, it appears that Gibson, the printer, was asisted in the compilation by John Daye. It is of extreme rarity; a copy, defective of the title and four leaves, sold on the 11th inst., among Mr. Pickering's books, for 9*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

A MOTTO FOR A PUMP.

De uno puteo multi possunt aquam haurire.

Albertus Magnus de Secretis Mulierum, p. 227.

Dublin. A. S.

STRUTT'S QUEEN-HOO HALL.

SOME years since, I purchased of the author's son a printed copy of "Queen-Hoo Hall," by the late Joseph Strutt, containing manuscript memoranda by him, which, among other matters stated, the original manuscript of that romance, prior to its being printed, was submitted to Mr., subsequently Sir Walter Scott, who retained it a long time. In that writer's "Waverley" Mr. Strutt junior, accuses Sir Walter of taking facts and hints from his parent's work. He also states the story of the illuminator in Queen-Hoo Hall, is a memoir of his father, the author of so many popular works in elucidation of English antiquities.

These four volumes, printed at Edinburgh, in 1808, I presented to my friend and patron, Mr. John Broadley, whose very fine and choice library was, after his decease, sold by auction. Can any reader of Current Notes say, in whose possession is now this copy of Strutt's Queen-Hoo Hall? I have a beautiful miniature portrait of Joseph Strutt, by J. Jackson, R.A.

Jan. 15. J. BRITTON,

FRENCH NEWSPAPERS.—The daily circulation of the principal political journals of Paris is thus defined:—The *Presse*, 41,000 copies; *Siècle*, 36,000; *Constitutionnel*, 26,000; *Pays*, 16,000; *Patrie*, 15,000; *Journal des Débats*, 9000; *Univers*, 6000; *Assemblée Nationale*, 5000; *Union*, 4000; and the *Gazette de France*, 3000.

LOVE AND HONOUR.—Mrs. Jameson, in her "Ethical Fragments," gives the following as a wise saying of Landor's:—

> Love is a secondary passion in those who love most, a primary in those who love least; he who is inspired by it in the strongest degree is inspired by honour in a greater.

The *expression* as quoted is Landor's; the *idea* however, is certainly not his, it belongs to a poet of Charles the First's time, I think, as the two following lines will prove:—

> I should not love thee half so well,
> Loved I not honour more.

I do not remember where these lines are, and should be obliged if any of your readers will assist my memory?

Apropos of ideas borrowed—borrowed is too strong a word when applied to minds like Landor's and Cowper's—do you not think that our poet Cowper got his cue for his beautiful lines, beginning—

> Yon cottager who weaves at her own door;

from Corneille's paraphrase of the "Imitation of Jesus Christ," chap. ii.?

> Un paysan stupide et sans expérience,
> Qui ne sait que t'aimer et n'a que de la foi,
> Vaut mieux qu' un philosophe enflé de sa science,
> Qui pénètre les cieux, sans refléchir sur soi.

J. W.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. L.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [FEBRUARY, 1855.

INEDITED LETTERS OF LAURENCE STERNE.

THE following letters addressed to John Hall Stevenson, Sterne's "Eugenius," are more characteristic of that writer than any of those already printed with his works, and are a sufficient evidence that all the letters which passed under the editorial emendations of his daughter Madame Lydia de Medalle, have been despoiled of their raciness from an erroneous estimate of what was due to his memory.

Antecedent to these two letters, the following extracts present much in elucidation of Sterne's position and sentiments, as expressed in them. There was a certain waywardness in the conduct of Mrs. Sterne, which greatly accounts for the alleged indifference towards her, so generally laid to the charge of her husband; in fact, there is no question, that the marriage tie between them was anything but a happy junction of persons. M. Tollot, an acquaintance of all the parties, in a letter to John Hall Stevenson, dated Bordeaux, le 8 Janvier, 1764, describing the onward course of his journey in France, writes—

Nous arrivames le lendemain à Montpellier où nous trouvames notre ami M. Sterne, sa femme, sa fille, et quelques autres Angloises: j'eu, je vous l'avoue, beaucoup de plaisir en revoiant le bon et agréable Tristram, qui me parut être toujours à peu prez dans le même état où je l'avois laissé à Paris. Il avoit été assez longtemps à Toulouse, où il se seroit amusé sans sa femme qui le poursuivoit partout, et qui vouloit être de tout: ces dispositions dans cette bonne dame lui ont fait passer d'assez mauvais momens: il supporte tous ces désagrémens avec une patience d'ange.* Son intention étoit retourner en Angleterre avec sa famille, mais il paroit que ces deux dames veulent passer encore un an en France pour *finir* Miss Sterne: pour lui, il est déterminé à quitter Montpellier dans le mois de Février et de venir à Paris. Je l'ai beaucoup exhorté à venir nous y joindre: j'aurai soin d'avoir une bonne chambre pour lui dans le même hotel où nous serons; nous y aurions une bonne table où il aura toujours son couvert; et s'il veut, nous le ramenerons en Angleterre avec nous: comme ce parti m'a paru lui convenir, je me flatte de le voir à Paris à la fin du mois prochain. Je voudrois bien que vous voulussiez être de la partie; ce seroit une grande augmentation de plaisir pour nous et pour lui, et nous pourrions nous y amuser pendant deux ou trois mois.

In a letter to Foley, his banker at Paris, dated from Montpellier, Jan. 20, 1764, Sterne alludes to this determination on the part of Mrs. Sterne. "My wife returns to Toulouse, and purposes to spend the summer at Bagnieres. I, on the contrary, go and visit my wife, the church, in Yorkshire. We all live the longer, at least the happier, for having things our own way; this is my conjugal maxim. I own 'tis not the best of maxims, but I maintain 'tis not the worst." Later, in a letter to his daughter, from Paris, May 15, he parentally expresses himself, "by this time I suppose, your mother and yourself are fixed at Montauban."

As usual, Sterne was at Paris the soul of gaiety, and practically in himself adopted the motto—*vive la bagatelle.* The time was however approaching for his appearance at Coxwould, and the first of these letters, not included in his works, was then sent to England.

Paris, May 19, 1764.

My dear Cosin,—We have been talking and projecting about setting out from this city of seductions every day this month, so that allowing me three weeks to ruminate upon yr letter, and this month passed in projections, and some other things of the same termination, I account for this sin of omission to you, without pretending to excuse it—'*God be merciful to me a sinner*,'—or sometimes, dear Sir, or dear Madame, be merciful, etc, just as the case happens, is all I have generally to say for what I do, and what I do not: all which being premised, I have been weeks smitten with the tenderest passion that ever tender wight underwent. I wish, dear cosin, thou couldest conceive, perhaps thou canst without my wishing it, how deliciously I canter'd away with it the first month, two up, two down, always upon my haunches along the streets from my hotel to hers, at first, once—then twice, then three times a day, till at length, I was within an ace of setting up my hobby horse in her stable for good an all. I might as well, considering how the enemies of the Lord have blasphemed thereupon. The last three weeks we were every hour upon the doleful ditty of parting—and thou mayest conceive, dear cosin, how it alter'd my gait and air—for I went and came like any louden'd carl, and did nothing but mix tears, and *Jouer les sentiments* with her, from sunrising even to the setting of the same; and now she is gone to the South of France,

* Sterne's apparent equanimity of temper in society was unhappily too frequently assumed under very inauspicious circumstances. A home not very agreeable, ill health, and disappointments in his hopes, had their effect on a temperament sufficiently susceptible of their baneful influence. M. Tollot, in a previous letter to John Hall Stevenson, dated Paris, April 4, 1762; after describing the violence of the wind and the rain, which impelled him to take divers glasses of Bordeaux to make himself gay, adds—

Cela me fait envier quelques fois les heureuses dispositions de notre ami Mr. Sterne; tous les objets sont couleur de rose pour cet heureux mortel, et ce qui se présente aux yeux des autres sous un aspecte triste et lugubre, prende aux siens une face gaye et riante: il ne poursuit que le plaisir, et il ne fait pas comme d'autres, qui quand ils l'ont atteint ne sçavent pas le plus souvent enjouier: pour lui il boit le *bole* jusques à la dernierre goutte, et encore n'y a t'il pas moien de le désaltérer.

and to finish the comedie, I fell ill, and broke a vessel in my lungs, and half bled to death.[a] Voilà mon Histoire!

We are now setting out without let or hindrance, and shall be in London ye 29th, Dijs, Deabusque volentibus. Tollot sends a thousand kind greetings along with those of our family, to you. He has had a very bad spring of it, from a scoundril relaxation of his nervous system wch had God sent us warmer weather, he would have recovered more speedily; his journey wth its change of air, will I hope sett him up; why may we not all meet for a fortnight at Scarborough this summer? I wish you would say you would, and I would settle the party, before I leave London.[b] Write a line to us at Thornhils', where I shall be whilst in town. We want sadly to see yr preachment—the report from me made yr heroe an inch higher. I see him every day, and without much, or indeed any precaution, as well by Ins as Outs. You will scarce believe I dined with him and Lord Tavistoc, t'other day, and with Lord Beauchamp, our ambassador's son, and him, etc., three days ago. He is eternally joyous and jockundissm.; and I think to a greater degree than in those days when he had more occasion. I pity him from my soul: he talks of decamping from home to sojourn in Italy, as soon as the *take* of his hôtel is expired, wch was for a year; I think Italy is not the place for him; but he has reasons wch I see not. On Thursday morning, we set out from foutre-land, tho' we ought not to abuse it—for we have lived, shag rag and bobtail, all of us, a most jolly nonsensical life of it; and so dear cosin Antony,[d] adieu, in full hopes on my side, that I shall spend many still more joyous deliriums with you, over many a pint of Burgundy—so be it,

Yr affectte Cosin, L. STERNE.

Superscribed.

To John Hall Stevenson, Esqre.,
at Skelton Castle, near Guisbro',
Angleterre. Yorkshire.

He was probably in London at the close of May; the newspapers of June 5 announced his being then in town. On June 23, he arrived at York. Two years later, the ensuing letter was addressed by him to John Hall Stevenson, at Skelton Castle, near Guisborough.

Coxwould, Dec. 17, 1766.

My dear Cosin,—I consider thee as a bank-note in the corner drawer of my bureau—I know it is there; I wish I did; and its value, tho' I seldome take a peep at it, if a comparison will excuse my idlenesses and neglects of all kind to thee—so be it, though I must take further shame, and own I had not wrote now, but that I profited by the *transit* of a Craselite,[e] by my door, of whom I have learned all welcome acctsa of thee, that thou farest well, and art good liking; for my own part, I have had my menses thrice this month, which is twice too often, and am not altogether according to my feelings, by being so much, which I cannot avoid, at Lord F[alconbridge]'s, who oppress me to death with civility.[f] So Tristram goes on busily—what I can find appetite to write, is so so. You never read such a chapter of evils from me—I am tormented to death and the devil by my Stillington inclosure; and am every hour threatened with a journey to Avignon, where Mrs. Sterne is very bad; and by a series of letters I've from Lydia, I suppose is going the way of us all.

I want to know from yourself how you do—and you go on, I mean allumg—full gladly would I see you, but whilst I'm tied neck and heels as I am—'tis impracticable. Remember me sometimes in yr potations—bid Pantyh pray for me, when he prays for the Holy Catholic Church—present my compliments to Mrs. Ferguson i—and be in peace and charity with all mankind.

And the blessing of God the Father,
Son,
and
Holy Ghost be with you,
Amen. L. STERNE.

P.S. Greet Hales, and his household.

AMBRY.—I observe in your number for January a communication from a correspondent signing himself "A. J." which commences, "The Ambry, *scot.*, almerie, or almoric, a recess in churches for depositing the alms for the poor." Allow me to correct this false etymology; the "Ambry," means neither more nor less than a cupboard; "*almorium*," in the latinity of the middle ages, as the quotation which your correspondent gives from Ducange, indicates. The same word exists in modern French in the slightly altered shape of *armoire*.

"Alms" is derived from the Greek "*eleemosyna*," through the French term *aumône*. The Ambry never was used in our mediæval churches "to deposit the alms for the poor." It was used for depositing the vessels required for the Holy Communion. Hence its position in the chancel or side chapel, or else in the sacristy.

F. S. A.

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[a] The old story *de novo*. Writing to the same friend from Toulouse, on August 12, 1762, Sterne apprised him, "about a week or ten days before my wife arrived in Paris, I had the same accident I had at Cambridge, of breaking a vessel in my lungs."

[b] Sterne failed in this expressed desire; he went alone to Scarborough, in September following.

[c] Lawson Trotter, Mr. Stevenson's uncle, by the mother's side, the former possessor of Skelton Castle, but who as a friend of the Pretender, and an avowed Jacobite, fled from England in 1745, when the castle and estates devolved to his youngest sister Catherine, then married to Joseph Hall. Lawson Trotter was then living in exile.

[d] A distinctive title assumed to himself, by John Hall Stevenson, in his Crazy Tales.

[e] A member of the merry fraternity who met and partook of the festivities in Skelton Castle. In the prologue to the Crazy Tales, it is thus described:—

There is a castle in the north,
Seated upon a swampy clay,
At present but of little worth;
In former times it had its day:
This ancient castle is called Crazy.

[f] Sterne, in 1760, was presented by Lord Falconbridge to the Curacy of Coxwould.

[g] The alum works then carried on near Skelton.

[h] The Rev. Robert Lascelles.

[i] Addressed by Sterne, in the previously published letters as "My witty Widow."

LORD GRAY'S ASSERTED SACRILEGE REFUTED.

In the Irish Churchman's Almanac, for 1855, is an interesting Historical Notice of the Cathedral of Down, attributed to the Venerable Archdeacon Mant, in which the following passage occurs:—

Ware records the death in 1526, of Tiberius, Bishop of Down and Connor who "very much beautified the cathedral;" but no further record remains to show in what particulars this beautifying consisted; and the work of Bishop Tiberius, as well as most of his predecessors, was destroyed in 1538, by Leonard Lord Gray, the Lord Deputy of Ireland, who, in an incursion into Ulster, burn'd the Cathedral of Down, and converted it into a stable; for which and other acts of sacrilege he was deservedly impeached and beheaded three years after.

A grave error has long prevailed on this subject—an error into which not only the venerable author, but every writer who has preceded him on the same subject has likewise fallen. It appears that if Lord Leonard Gray had any share in the demolition of the Benedictine Abbey of Down (now Down Cathedral), which, to say the least, is very doubtful, it is quite certain that the act, if committed, *did not* form one of the charges upon which he was condemned, and for which he suffered. Through the whole of the ninety articles of accusation against him, not a single allusion is made to any act of sacrilege supposed to have been committed by Gray, either at Down or elsewhere; so that for these oft repeated idle tales, no other authority is to be found than the dull fabler Stanihurst. Moore, in this respect, vindicates the character of Lord Gray, and not only insinuates, but asserts that he never became a convert to the reformed religion. Speaking of the Lord Deputy's having entered Lecale, the district in which Down is situated; in the course of a "hosting," when he took from Macgennis the "bold Castle of Dundrum, one of the strongest holds in the kingdom," Moore says: "He (Lord Leonard Gray) is accused of having in the course of this expedition burn'd the Cathedral Church of Down, defaced the monuments of the Saints Patrick, Bridget, and Columb-kill, and committed many other such acts of sacrilege; but for this generally received story there appear to be no more real grounds than for the similar charge brought against him, respecting the Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas, at Galway. Lord Leonard Gray remained to the last attached to the ancient faith; and at this time, when historians represent him as defacing and destroying the monuments of Catholic worship, he was, on the contrary, provoking the taunts of some of his reformed fellow-statesmen, by kneeling devoutly before the 'Idol of Trim'—as an ancient image of the Virgin, in the church of that town, was thus mockingly styled—and hearing three or four masses in succession." Hist. of Irel. vol. III. p. 283, referring to State Paper, T. Alen to Cromwell, numb. 257. Thus, it is not at all probable that he who had "come in the chapell, where the Idoll of Trym stode, veray devoutely kneling before Hir, and hard thre or fower masses," would commit the sacrilege so repeatedly imputed to him.

Downpatrick, Feb. 14. JAMES A. PILSON.

CUP-BEARER TO THE KINGS OF SCOTLAND.

THE office of *Pincerna*, or King's Cup-bearer in Scotland, is of remote antiquity and importance, but, although said to be hereditary in some families, so little is known respecting that officer, that the following memoranda are advanced, in the hope of eliciting further information.

The office of Cup-bearer was common to the household of the kings of all nations, and is evidently of Eastern origin; it is noticed in the sacred writings, and the inspired Nehemiah (ch. i. v. 11) is there said to have been Cup-bearer to the kings of Jerusalem. But, without entering into the history of the office in other kingdoms, it appears from chartularies and other early records, that in Scotland, not only the monarch, but also the more potent churchmen had their cup-bearers.

Chalmers, in his *Caledonia*, vol. i. p. 512, observes that Ranulph de Sules was *pincerna Regis* for some time, and died not long before the year 1170; again, at p. 538, he notices that the first of the family of Hay, in Scotland, held the same office, and died about the same year; adding that the first Hay was "succeeded by his son William, who inherited his lands, but not his office, which passed to the family de Sulis, with whom it seems to have become hereditary." These assertions it is the purport of this inquiry to reconcile, for as these particulars have been followed, without due consideration, by other writers, Chalmers' representation of the historical points is at least but vague and uncertain.

The earliest notice known to the writer of the office of *pincerna Regis* in Scotland, is that of Alfric, who in that capacity was an attesting witness to several of the charters and grants of King Edgar, who reigned from 1097 till 1107; as also to another grant to the monks of Scoon, by Alexander the First, the successor to Edgar.

During the first years of the reign of William the Lion, as observed by Chalmers, the office was held by Ranulph de Sules, who died in or about the year 1170. His successor appears to have been William de Hay, who as *pincerna Regis Scocie* granted freely to the Prior and Canons of St. Andrew's, for the space of twenty years, a carrucate of land in Pitmully, Fifeshire. This charter, confirmed by his sons Eva and David,* is the only deed known to the writer, in which Hay is distinguished by his office of pincerna; and the name of Philip de Valoniis 'Camera' appearing among other witnesses at that confirmation,† the date is ascertained to be within the years 1180 and 1211, the period of Philip de Valoniis being the King's Chamberlain, and affording incontestable proof that the office of pincerna, or cup-bearer, was held *not* by the first Hay, as erroneously asserted by Chalmers, but by the very son William, whom the same writer states "inherited his father's lands, but not his office."

* Reg. de St. Andree, p. 313. † Ibid. p. 314.

This William de Hay is evidently the same who is said to have died towards the end of the 12th century, leaving six sons, David, William, John, Thomas, Robert, and Malcolm,* to whom ought to be added Eva, making a seventh son, since it is clear that he was a living witness at the confirmation of his father's benevolence to the Monks of St. Andrew's.

Whether, by the marriage of Julian, daughter of Ranulph de Sules, formerly cup-bearer, with one of the Hays, that office had descended to William de Hay, no evidence is found; but in various charters by William the Lion from 1204 to 1226, mostly relating to grants of land in Angus and Mearns, two of them being dated from Forfar, where there was a royal residence till the time of Bruce, the name of "Malcolm miles pincerna Regis" appears as an attesting witness.† Malcolm de Hay in 1237 witnessed a charter by his brother Thomas to the monks of Cupar.‡ The name and designation of "Malcolm pincerna domini Regis" are also attached to an agreement with the prior and monks of Mary (?); respecting the chapel of Ricarton and the Kirk of Rindalgross § [qu. Randlestone?]; who was possibly the same Malcolm de Hay.

Upon the death of "Malcolm miles," or on his relinquishing the office of Cup-bearer to the King, Chalmers, quoting the chartulary of Newbottle, states, Nicholas, nephew of Ranulph de Sules, "acquired, by his talents, the office of *pincerna*, which he exercised under Alexander the Second, and also under Alexander the Third." Subsequently, the title of *pincerna* would seem to have become obsolete in Scotland, and in the memorable letter of the Scottish Barons in 1320 to Pope John, William, the representative of the old family de Sules, subscribes himself "buttelarius Scocie."‖ This William de Sules, for conspiring against Bruce, soon after suffered death; and from that period the office or title of "buttelarius Scocie," is rarely, if at all mentioned.

Such are the brief notices obtainable in reference to the names and families of the earliest known Cup-bearers to the Kings of Scotland, but, it has to be observed, that although for some centuries past, neither the designation of the office *pincerna Regis*, nor the names of persons holding that office, occur in the records, yet it has still a place among the officers of the royal household, in the almanacs and political registers of the kingdom; and by those authorities it is held, that the family of Carnegie of Southesk, in Forfarshire, are the hereditary holders of that office.

The Carnegies of Southesk are of Norman lineage, and their original name was de Balindard, until about the year 1350, when John de Balindard passed the old patrimonial lands of Balin (hard) in the parish of Arbislot to Sir Walter de Maule of Panmure, in exchange for those of Carnegie, in Carmyllie; and assumed the name of Carnegie,† in lieu of that of de Balindard.

From the time of Duthacus de Carnegie, grandson of the last John de Balindard, and the first of the Carnegies of Kinnaird or Southesk, various members of the family have held important positions in the history of their country. The date of the appointment of Cup-bearer to the King as conferred upon one of the Carnegie family has not been ascertained, but if the Cup, as an heraldic charge upon the breast of the spread eagle, in the armorial insignia of that family, may be held as an honorary signification of the office, that appointment preceded the year 1565, as the Sir Robert Carnegie of that time used that distinction upon his seal.

King Charles the First, in 1633, in consideration of the services of Sir David Carnegie, as a lawyer and statesman, created him a peer, by the title of Earl of Southesk, subsequently forfeited by James, the fifth Earl, for his adherence to the cause of the Stuarts. He died in exile, in 1729; and leaving no issue, the representation of the family devolved on Sir James Carnegie, of Pitarrow. The present baronet, who is great grandson of the last named, is Lord Lieutenant of Kincardineshire, and claimant for the Earldom of Southesk. He married the Hon. Lady Catherine Noel, second daughter of the Earl of Gainsborough, by whom he has several daughters, and a son born March 20, 1854.

Brechin, Feb. 16. A. J.

* Douglas' Peerage of Scotland, by Wood, vol. I. p. 544.
† Regist. de Aberbrothoc, pp. 34, etc.
‡ Douglas' Peerage, Vol. II. p. 545.
§ Registr. de St. Andree, p. 396.
‖ Acta Parl. vol. i. p. 114.

* Martin de Clermont assigns considerable antiquity to the Carnegies, and states, but on no apparent authority, that the first of them, in the time of William the Lion, was Constable to the King's House at Fettercairn, for which service he obtained the lands of Fesdow and Pitnamoone.

Macfarlane's copy of the Manuscript in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh.

LEXICOGRAPHICAL ABSURDITIES.

Dr. Ash, in his New and Complete Dictionary of the English Language, borrowed largely from Dr. Johnson. The latter had given as the origin of the word "Curmudgeon," the French *cœur-méchant*. This, however, was not Johnson's own etymology, and accordingly he added to *cœur-méchant* the words "an unknown correspondent" as the suggester of that derivation. Ash, with a laudable desire to be precise, and to assign to each word its due honour, inserted in his dictionary, as the etymology of the English "Curmudgeon," the French cœur, *unknown*, and méchant, a *correspondent*; a miser, a churl, a griper.

In Littleton's Latin dictionary, *to concur*, *to condog*, was long held as a jocosery, said to have originated in a pettish remark by the lexicographer; but in the early editions of Cockeram's Dictionary the words are used as a synonyme for the word "to agree;" thus, "agree; concurre, cohere, *condog*, condescend." And earlier, in Lyly's *Galathea*, 1592, 4to. act III. sc. 3, we find the words "concurre, *condogge*," applied as if it was simply in burlesque. How this has originated does not appear.

F. N.

DOUBTFUL PORTRAIT OF SKELTON.

SINCE my former communication in Current Notes, December last, p. 103,* I have obtained two interesting works, to which I would call the attention of your readers. One of them is the "Histoire des Livres Populaires, ou de la Littérature du Colportage, etc. par M. Charles Nisard," printed at Paris, 1854, 2 vols. 8vo †

M. Nisard, in the second volume, enters into the subject of the Dance of Death, or "Danse Macabre," and at p. 303, notices an edition of "La Grande Danse Macabre des Hommes et des Femmes," printed at Troyes, by Jean Ant. Garnier. No date appears on the title, but the time of publication is determined by that of the permission to print, May 6, 1728. Garnier's volume is in quarto, pp. 76, with sixty figures. Several facsimiles are given; the last, at p. 326, is that which has been put forth as the portrait of Skelton.

Nisard observes upon this,—

C'est l'éditeur qui s'est un peu moqué de nous, car la figure qu'il nous donne ici pour un portrait de l'auteur, est celle-là même qui représente le mois d'Avril dans le 'Compost des Bergers', de l'édition de 1705. Cette planche n'a donc ni rime ni raison; mais elle remplit apparement une place qui fût demeurée vide sans cela. C'est tout ce qu'on peut dire de mieux pour la justifier.

The other work alluded to by me, entitled, "Les Cartes à Jouer et la Cartomancie. par P. Boileau D'Ambly," printed at Paris, 1854, sm. 8vo., affords further evidence that this fanciful woodcut has served a variety of functions. The work contains forty woodcut facsimiles of various cards, and on p. 83, is again found this fantastical pseudonyme Skelton, below which we read "Valet de feuilles" (Grün-Vert), *i.e.* the Knave of Leaves, in a pack of cards. The author adds—

Estampe allemande à ce que je crois, et des premiers temps. On dirait le dessin d'un miniature semblable à celles de nos vieux manuscrits. J'en ai vu d'à peu près pareilles, gracieusement exécutées par le roi Réné, à la bibliothèque d'Angers.

F. R. A.

* In the reference to British Bibliographer, vol. IV. for p. 189, read p. 389.

† As Sterne has observed, they manage these things better in France; a similar work in reference to the early popular literature of England would be replete with much interest, and highly acceptable. Nothing beyond one or two lists of specimens of provincial dialects, and the two Notices of Popular English Histories, Fugitive Tracts and Chap Books, forming nos. 79 and 83 of the Percy Society publications, proffer any materials for their bibliography or elucidation. Even these Notices are devoid of chronology, method or order, and appear to have been nothing more than as successful ephemeral advertisements for effecting the sale of the collection to the British Museum Library for 300*l*. No production of the Stonecutter Street Press is noticed, and yet many chap books and ballads emanated from it. Possibly the following hand-bill supplies the date of its extinction.

To be sold by Hand, To-morrow, January 8, 1756, and the following days, all the Printing Materials of Mr. Robert Powell, Printer, in Stonecutter Street, deceased; among which are between Thirty and Forty standing Forms, and a large Parcel of Wood Cuts. Also the Household Goods.

SCOTLAND'S HILLS.

ON one point, that this song did appear in the Edinburgh Literary Gazette, G. W. N. is correct, (Current Notes, Dec. vol. iv. p. 100,) but is in error in supposing it first appeared therein. The Gazette indeed, May 31, 1829, in a note, admits the first two stanzas had been previously published. Whitelaw's book of Scottish Song I have not seen; but G. W. N.'s version is not that given in the Gazette, which has two stanzas in addition to those originally published, and forwarded by me in my first note. These additional verses, wholly different from the third one, noticed by G. W. N. are as follow:—

The throstle and the nightingale
May warble sweeter strains,
Than thrill at lovely gloaming hours
On Scotland's daisied plains.
Give me the merle's mellow note,
The linnet's minstrelsy;
The lav'rocks on the roseate cloud,
Oh! Scotland's hills for me.

And I would rather roam beneath
Her scowling wintry skies,
Than listlessly attune my lyre
Where sunbright flow'rs arise.
The baron's hall, the peasant's cot,
Protect alike the free;
The tyrant dies who breathes their air,
Oh! Scotland's hills for me.

Apropos of this said Edinburgh Literary Gazette, the very existence of it had some little connection with "Scotland's Hills," which was printed in its third number. Possibly, it may be in the recollection of some of the readers of Current Notes, that a periodical entitled the Edinburgh Literary Journal existed some months previously to the Gazette; and in an early number of that paper, January 11, 1829, was a short notice of the "Covenanter's Communion." The author was in W. B. Gardener's shop, in Dundee, on the day the said number made its appearance; it was certainly not very gratifying to his feelings, and he *almost immediately* started for Edinburgh, where, upon a consultation with some of his literary friends, resulted the publication of the Gazette, in which, at no distant day, the "Covenanter's Communion" obtained a lengthy criticism of an highly approving tone.

Forfarshire, Jan. 2. D. P.

SEVENDIBLE.—Can any Correspondent of Current Notes explain this word, which I have not found in any dictionary, but it is in common use in Ireland to imply a thoroughly complete course or thing, to wit, a sevendible cleaning, etc?

Belfast, Feb. 9. W. W. L.

Kersey has the old statute word sevantly, implying well, honestly, as sevantly woven. Query, Is it a corruption of sevendouble, in place of sevenfold?—ED.

KNOWLEDGE is truly *pabulum animæ*, and books the best caterers for that entertainment.—*Tho. Forde.*

POPE'S CHARACTER OF ATOSSA.

POPE's Epistle, addressed to Mrs. Martha Blount, "Of the Characters of Women," written in rivalry of Young's lighter and more sportive Characters in his most unjustly neglected poem of the "Universal Passion;" and which Bolingbroke considered was Pope's masterpiece; was first printed in 1735, in folio; and reprinted, in the same year, in the second volume of the collected edition of his works, in quarto; the first having been published in 1717. The number of lines is 196: and no variation occurs in these editions beyond one or two verbal alterations. In those of 1735, the very prominent characters of Philomedé, Atossa, and Cloe, form no part. The lines which characterise Atossa are said to have been read to the Duchess of Marlborough, as designed for a portrait of the Duchess of Buckingham; but she soon stopped the person who was reading them; and on the authority of the Duchess of Portland, is further said to have loudly avowed—"I cannot be so imposed upon: I see plainly enough for whom they are designed." All the currently related intimations of her having bribed the poet in order to his suppressing these lines, had possibly no real fact upon which that assertion was based; the person satirized, and the satirist, both died in one year, in 1744, and the enlarged Epistle as it now appears, was first published from the author's manuscript in 1746, in folio. The additions by Pope extend the poem from 196 to 292 lines, and time has since defined the poet's delineations of character impersonated with a firm and unflinching pen. That of Philomedé, commencing at line 69—

> See Sin in state, majestically drunk;

is unequivocally allusive to Henrietta, usually called the young Duchess of Marlborough; Atossa was her mother, Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough; and Cloe, the Countess of Suffolk. For further notices, the reader is referred to Roscoe's variorum edition of Pope's works, 1824, vol. V. pp. 285-313.

S.

MODERN ILLUMINATORS.—The whole Academy at Vienna, are employed in illustrating a Missal, intended to be presented to the Empress.

LETTERS from Weimar announce the death of Dr. Eckermann, the well-known friend and amanuensis of Goëthe. His last years were saddened by bad health and social isolation.

SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.

We are enabled to state, on good authority, that the affairs of this Society will be publicly wound up at the usual Anniversary Meeting, the 27th of April next, when the Audited Accounts will be laid before the Members, and the final Report of the Council read.

LOVE AND HONOUR.—The lines which your correspondent, J. W., Current Notes, p. 8, misquotes, being—

> I could not love thee, dear, so much,
> Loved I not honour more,

are from the elegant stanzas, "To Lucasta, on going to the wars," addressed by Colonel Richard Lovelace to Lucy Sacheverel, the lady of his affections; and printed with other of his poems, in a volume, entitled Lucasta; Odes, Sonnets, Songs, etc. 1649.

Sir Walter Scott has adopted the last verse as the motto prefixed to the twenty-fifth chapter of "the Talisman," and is erroneously quoted by him as from Montrose's lines.

Bristol. J. K. R. W.

ANOTHER correspondent, who also refers to Lovelace's Lucasta, adds—

Do any of your Correspondents know where are to be found—

> Words are things, and a small drop of ink,
> Falling like dew upon a thought, produces
> That which makes thousands, perhaps millions, think?

J. C. D.

THE lines misquoted by your correspondent, J. W., are by the cavalier-poet Colonel Richard Lovelace, and are really thus,—

> But this inconstancy is such,
> As you too shall adore;
> I could not love thee, dear, so much,
> Loved I not honour more.

The whole poem is quoted by Miss Mitford, in her Reminiscences.

The poems of Colonel Lovelace, who died in 1658, were printed in two volumes, one in 1649; the other, after his decease, in 1659. In my copy of the last is an autograph inscription, "Ursula D'Oyley, her book," whom I suppose to have been one of the D'Oyley's of Greenland, in Buckinghamshire, a family, who in the King's interest defended their house in the Civil War. If any of your readers can give me any information relating either to them, or to her, I shall be much obliged.

Birmingham, Jan. 27. J. H. S.

TOMB OF JULIET AT VERONA.

VERONA, the birth-place of Pliny and Catullus, has been no less celebrated in an age not so remote for the deadly animosities of the Houses of Montagu and the Capulet, made interesting to us by the incident of Romeo and Juliet. Girolamo della Corte, in his History of Verona, relates the story as an historical event, and Bandello, who derived it from Luigi da Porto, places the occurrence in the time of Bartolommeo Scaligeri. Few tales have ever found so many different versions as that of Romeo and Juliet, a proof of the interest it was calculated to excite. It has been traced to a Greek romance, and there are two versions by old French writers, by whom the scene has been placed in France.

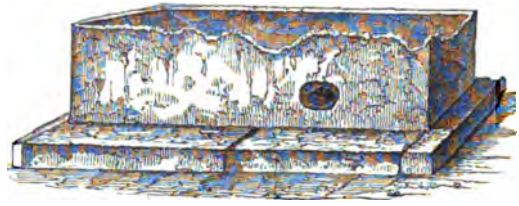
In Italy, it is first discovered in Massuccio, from whom, as supposed by some persons, Shakespeare derived it, while others imagine him to have taken it from the old drama by Luigi da Groti; and again subsequently written by Luigi da Porto, whose version of the catastrophe differs from that of Massuccio. Luigi da Porto makes Juliet awake from her death-like slumber after Romeo has swallowed the poison, which affords occasion for a scene of great pathos. The natural joy of her finding him near her when she awakes, and his transport at her restoration to life indulged in for a few brief moments, render the horror of the discovery of his having taken poison the more heart-rending. Shakespeare adopted Massuccio's relation, and made Juliet awaken after Romeo had expired; the scene as now represented, being it is presumed Colley Cibber's arrangement. Many dramas have been founded on this tale, two in the Spanish language, by Lope de Vega and by Fernando Roxas, change wholly the names and the catastrophe, as in them the lovers are happily united.

Margaret, Countess of Blessington, in her "Idler in Italy," describing her visit to Verona, exclaims—"Verona! the very name is instinct with associations dear to every English heart, and the place seems like a second home, so blended is it with recollections awakened in early youth, by the enchanter, whose magic wand has rendered parts of Italy, never visited before, as familiar to us as household words.

"Who has ever forgotten the first perusal of Romeo and Juliet, when the heart echoed the impassioned vows of the lovers, and deeply sympathised with their sorrows? Though furrows of care and age may have marked the brow, and the bright hopes and illusions of life have long faded, the heart will still heave a sigh to the memory of those days, when it could melt with pity at a tale of love; and grief for the loss of our departed youth becomes blended with the pensiveness awakened by the associations of what so greatly moved and interested us in that joyous season of existence.

"Few places have undergone less change than Verona, and this circumstance adds to the interest it excites. It is difficult, if not impossible, at least while in Verona, to believe that the story of these lovers is, after all, but a legend, claimed by many countries. I confess it appears to me, to be more true than many of the facts recorded by 'grave and reverend' historians, as connected with cities and buildings which still retain proofs of their authenticity. It is the genius of Shakespeare that has accomplished this, and every English heart will own it. I feel much less interest about seeing the far-famed amphitheatre here, than the tomb of Juliet, a confession calculated to draw on me the contemptuous pity of every antiquary in Italy.

"My first visit was to the vineyard in which is the sarcophagus said to have been that of Juliet, the fair and gentle maid immortalised by our own Shakespeare, and to whose memory every English heart turns with an interest, with which he alone could have invested it. The vineyard is near the Franciscan convent, and is supposed to have formerly been a cemetery.* It now belongs to a person who permits the sarcophagus to be seen, in return for which favour a small gratuity is expected, if not demanded.



"This coffin, if such it may be called, is composed of a coarse red stone, greatly injured by time,† and resembles much more one of those large stone vessels used for feeding pigs in farmyards, than a sarcophagus. It is large enough to have contained two bodies, provided, as the cicerone gravely observed, they were not very large. I confess that my enthusiasm was very much cooled by the view of this tomb; for I could not bring myself to believe that it really was the last resting-place of the maiden whose story enabled Shakespeare to give to the world a creation so full of beauty, that cold indeed must be the mind which feels not its truth, and sympathises not with the sorrows of the gentle lovers.

"The doubt of the sarcophagus having really been that of Juliet, consoled me for the 'base uses' to which it had been applied; for, hear it all ye who have wept over her fate as represented by our glorious bard! it bears irrefragable proofs of having served as a receptacle for washing vegetables, many fragments of which floated in the impure water at the bottom of it.

"The least doubt of this coffin having been Juliet's greatly excites the choler of its proprietor; who, believing that the exercise of English generosity depends on its authenticity, and actuated by a fear of the diminution of his receipts, should discredit be attached to it, zealously proclaims it. I felt proud when I reflected that never would the names of the lovers be mentioned without a reference to England's greatest poet, who in

* Juliet was buried in the subterrain of Ferma Maggiore, a monastery founded in 1230, and which belonged to an order of Franciscan friars. Some years since, the monastery was destroyed by fire, when the vaults and the burying place were reduced to ruins. At this time, the stone sarcophagus, the reputed sepulchre of Juliet, was moved from its original deposit, and placed in the entrance gateway of the monastery, in which situation Duppa saw it in 1822. When placed there, it was whole, and the upper edge entire; but the votaries of Shakespeare had even then caused the mutilation shewn in the woodcut, and carried off the fragments as relics. Since that period, the Countess speaks of its being placed in the grounds of the ruined convent.

† The injuries by time are nothing compared to the mischief perpetrated by sacrilegious hands which carry off pieces as sacred relics. The hole in the side, as shewn in the woodcut, was doubtless made to let out the impure water.

immortalising them, has made his own fame, and that of his country still more widely extended. Happy is he whose name is blended with that of his land, and who in distant ones has made both beloved! How many thousands have visited the supposed sarcophagus of Juliet from having seen or read Shakespeare's tragedy, who would never have thought of her, if the story had not been related by him."

WHO WILL BELL THE CAT?

JAMES the Sixth, upon the death of the Regent, Earl of Marr, October 29th, 1572, was, with the Earl's children, committed to the care of the Earl's brother, Sir Alexander Erskine of Gogar; to George Buchanan, Adam and David Erskine, and Peter Young, under the direction and government of the old Countess of Marr, whose loyalty and devotion to the Royal family of Stuart had induced her to suckle the young king, and afterwards to be his nurse and attendant, under the commission of the regent and parliament of Scotland.

One day, the young king had for his theme from Buchanan the history of the conspiracy against James the Third, at Lauder, in which Archibald, Earl of Angus, obtained the name of "Bell the Cat," from his telling them the fable of some rats having combined against a cat, which they proposed to seize and tie a bell about his neck, to warn them of their danger; but as they were about to put their project in execution, one of the old rats asked which of them would be the first to seize the cat? This witty question created a profound silence, when Angus exclaimed, "I'll bell the cat!" After dinner the young king began romping and trifling with the Master of Erskine, the Earl of Marr's eldest son. Buchanan ordered the king to be silent, and not to interrupt Erskine in his reading; to which command James paying no heed, Buchanan said that if he did not hold his peace he would whip his breech. "Will you do so?" said the kingling, "I would fain see who will bell the cat?" Up started Buchanan, and putting aside his book, with a sound drubbing sternly performed his promise. The old Countess, being in her apartment immediately adjoining, ran up to the boy-king, and taking him up in her arms, asked him the cause of his crying? which the bawling sovereign explained in the best way he could. Resenting this castigation of royalty as an insult to the dignity of her charge, she boldly asked Buchanan how he dared to lay his hand on the Lord's anointed? To this Buchanan gravely replied, "Madam, I have whipped the King for disobedience and rudeness in the usual way; you may heal it with a kiss if you please."

The Master of Erskine, upon another occasion having a tame sparrow, James resolved to take it from him. Erskine resisted, and in the struggle the king killed the sparrow. Buchanan, for his tyranny and cruelty, gave his royal pupil a box on the ear; yet the tutor is charged with having instilled into the king's mind absurd notions.

M. S. M.

IRISH GROATS OF KING HENRY THE EIGHTH.

AMONG our Corporation Manuscripts is a royal mandate, dated at Westminster, Nov. 16 [1540], 32 Hen. VIII., addressed to the Sheriff of Warwickshire and Leicestershire, ordering him to publish the following proclamation, which may possibly interest the readers of Current Notes.

Leicester, Feb. 6. WILLIAM KELLY.

Whereas, the Kings most royall Maiestie at his graces great costes and expenses hathe a longe tyme susteynyd and yet kepith a great armye in his londe of Irelond, as well for conseruation and deffence of his seid lond as for the annoyance of suche his highness enymyes as attempt dayle great dyspleasures agenst his subiectes of the same; and for the mayntenaunce and relyf of the said armye and subiectes by his most excellent wysdome hathe ordenyd a coyne of money, as well of grottes as peñs of twopeno' to be currant only within his seid lond of Irelond, beryng the prynte of the harpe on the oon syde thereof, whiche coyne dyuers and sondre persons haue lately transported and brought of the seid lond, and uttrid the same within this his realme of Englond, not only to the great detryment and hurte of his seyd graces lond of Irelond, and of the seid armye and subiectes of the same, but also to the great deceyt of his heignes louing subiectes of this his realme of Englond. For remedye whereof his maiesty by this his proclamacion stretly chargith and comaundyth that no persone or persons of what estate, degre or condycion so euer he or she be of, shall from hensforth transporte or brynge out of his seid heighnes lond of Irelond, eny of the seid coyne of grottes or peñs of twopens' ordeynyd to be currant for and within the seid lond, nor utter or paye for eny payment within this realme of Englond, Wales, Barwyke, Calice or the Marches of the same, any of the seid coyne, vppon peyne of fforfeture of the treble value of the seid coyne brought, transported, or uttrid for payment contrary to this proclamacion, and on that to suffer ymprysonment and make fyne at his graces wyll and pleasure.

This proclamation is of some importance to Irish Numismatists, and refers to the groats and half groats, having in field on the reverse the initials H. K., the harp dividing them. The King's marriage with Catherine Howard took place on August 8, 1540, when the weight and quality of the coinage that immediately followed that event in no way rendered them of equal value with the groats and half groats then current in England. The Irish groat is figured in Simon's plate V. numb. 107; and the half-groat, in Holmes's additional plate, appended to the edition, 1810, numb. 18. This, with others of Holmes's coins there engraved, passed into the Henderson collection, and were dispersed at his sale in June 1818.

Simon appears to have had but a slight knowledge of this proclamation, as he refers the proposed penalties to the year 1541, when his highness had assumed the sovereignty as King of Ireland;* and the coinage with the regal titles was wholly different.

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* Essay on Irish Coins, 1749, 4to., p. 34. The editors of the edition, 1810, 4to., have not corrected this appropriation; and Mr. Lindsay, Coinage of Ireland, 1839, p. 50, simply refers to Simon.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LI.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [MARCH, 1855.

COVENT GARDEN IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

THE appellation is said to be derived from the land having been formerly part of the possessions of the Convent Garadon, in Leicestershire. Upon the dissolution of religious houses in England, this land fell to the crown, and King Edward the Sixth granted it to his uncle, Edward Seymour, Lord Protector, created Duke of Somerset in 1547, but who being attainted and beheaded in 1552, all his honours and lands were forfeited.

In May 1552, John Russell, Earl of Bedford, then Lord Privy Seal, obtained a grant to hold by socage the said pasture land lying in the Parish of St. Martin's in the Fields, next Charing Cross, with seven acres called the long acres, now known as the street called Long Acre, parcel of the possessions of the late Duke of Somerset, of the yearly value of 6*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* The Earl at this time resided in Bedford House, in the Strand, which had been the town mansion of the bishops of Carlisle,* and was situated upon the site of the present Beaufort Buildings; but on acquiring this grant, erected a large wooden building upon this land, named Bedford House, with an extensive fore court for carriages, towards the Strand, and a large garden behind, the whole enclosed by a wall. The former house was then abandoned to the Cecil family. The Earl died in 1554.

Beyond the boundary of the garden of Bedford House, the land continued to be but a common field,† with some irregularly situated tenements and stables, when Francis Russell, the fourth Earl, in 1631, if not before, determined on laying out the site for building streets with houses of some importance, Inigo Jones was instructed to devise the lines, and that now named Henrietta Street was the first so laid out, the front of the houses on the south side being parallel with the garden wall of Bedford House. A plot of ground 180 feet long by 33 feet wide, lying on the south side of a parcel of ground then set forth for a new churchyard, constituting apparently the houses on the north side of the same street, was leased to Edward Palmer, Citizen and Girdler, who after having erected nine houses on the site, died; and a new lease, dated March 10, 1631-2, was granted by the Earl to Edward Palmer, of the parish of St. Andrew's, Holborn, Gent., son of Edward Palmer, citizen and girdler, lately deceased; and to two others named in the said lease, to hold the same for thirty-four years from the above date, paying quarterly, the yearly rent of 17*l.* 0*s.* 6*d*, "at, or in the dining hall of the Earl, commonly called Bedford House in the Strand, in the parish of St. Martin's in the Fields."

Between the plot now occupied by the church, and immediately behind the house now number 2, in King Street, Le Sœur, in 1633, cast the bronze statue of King Charles the First. It was intended to decorate the centre of the piazza or square, in front of the church,* but that edifice not being finished or consecrated till late in 1638, the statue was, possibly from some political cause, not set up, and it remained there till 1676, when it was placed at Charing Cross, upon a pedestal, carved by Grinling Gibbon, then a parishioner. Francis, Earl of Bedford, of whom there is a portrait by Vandyck, died in 1641.

William, the fifth Earl, obtained in January, 1645-6, a parliamentary ordinance for the constituting the parish of St. Paul, Covent Garden, divided from that of St. Martin's in the Fields. The church was thereby parochial, and Hollar in that year engraved his view of the piazza of Covent Garden, the square being defined by wooden railing, and the church of St. Paul shewn in the distance. As the streets became tenanted, a market for the daily sale of fruit, flowers, roots and herbs, was permitted on the south side against the garden wall of Bedford House. To the Earl was granted in 1660, upon the restoration of royalty, a confirmatory act of parliament in reference to the parish, and defining its extent; and many of the best houses became tenanted by wealthy persons, who were driven westward by the devastations caused by the great fire in September, 1666. The market increasing, the Earl obtained a charter for holding it, by patent dated May 12, 1671; and to maintain it in due control, by lease dated December 20, 1677, he demised the said market, with all rights, tolls,

* Howel describing the south side of the Strand, observes: "Then is there Bedford House, which was sometimes the bishop of Carlisle's Inne. It stretched from the Savoy to Ivie-bridge, where Sir Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury, raised a large and stately house of brick and timber." *Londinopolis*, 1657, p. 349. Ivie-bridge remains as the way from the Strand to the Fox under the Hill, on the river side, at which place many boat loads of fruit are landed, and conveyed thence by sturdy porters to Covent Garden market.

† In 1627, when Edward, the third Earl of Bedford died, the poor rate books of St. Martin's parish, under the head of Covent Garden, noticed but two persons who were so assessed. Francis, the fourth Earl, was in 1630 the principal undertaker in that great work, the drainage of the fens known as the Great Level, and since named the Bedford Level.

* The church was designed by Inigo Jones, but Nicholas Stone, Master Mason of the King's Works, superintended the building.

and advantages whatsoever, to Adam Pigott and James Allen, Citizens and Cutlers of London, with liberty to dig cellars and build shops along the front of the garden wall of Bedford House, for twenty-one years, from Christmas in that year, they paying the said Earl eighty pounds per annum, "at, or in the hall of the mansion house of the said Earle, situate in the parish of St. Paul, Covent Garden, aforesaid."

Whatever rights were conceded by this lease to James Allen, devolved lawfully to Thomas Day, of the parish of St. Clements' Danes, Tallow Chandler, who on Pigott's surrendering at Midsummer, 1678, the previous lease, became with him conjointly the lessees of the market, for twenty-six years, from that time forward, they having to the Earl's satisfaction erected the shops with slated and leaded roofs, and balustrades upon the top, of a uniform design, the whole being one foot below the ranging line of the garden wall, and covenanting to maintain the same unimpaired during the term of that lease.

The regulations for holding the market daily, the restraining it, if possible, to the south side, and without the rails, so as not to obtrude upon the enclosed square, are all minutely detailed. The lease had two special clauses of forfeiture; one was the use of any chimneys or tunnels by any of the shops placed along the front of the garden wall, or before the banquetting houses in the said garden; the other was, allowing twenty-one days to pass before payment of the quarterly portion of the yearly rent of eighty pounds, the same being due on the first day of each third month.

This lease dated July 6, 1678, fully established Covent Garden Market, and was signed by the Earl,* whose signature is here given in facsimile.

The poor rate books of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, for 1679, shew the first assessment of the salesmen; there were then but twenty in all, severally rated at two shillings, and one shilling.

In Bernard Lens' print of the Rejoicings in Covent Garden, upon the return of King William the Third from Ireland, September 10, 1690, the garden wall of Bedford House is shewn, as also the domed summer houses in the garden, designated in the lease as "banquetting houses," but no indication of the shops in front; possibly these shops were found an annoyance to the Bedford family, and consequently were at this time removed and the stands conducted under some other regulation.* The lease for twenty-six years terminated at Midsummer, 1704, when Bedford House being untenanted, by reason that Wriothesley, the Duke of Bedford, resided at Streatham, in Surrey—he having married in 1694, Elizabeth, the daughter of John Howland of that place, the then richest heiress in England—it was demolished, and the site with the garden ground laid out for building. The new street from the Strand was named Southampton Street, in compliment to the Duke's mother, Lady Rachel Russell, daughter and heiress of Thomas Wriothesley, Earl of Southampton; and widow of Lord William Russell, executed in Lincoln's Inn Fields in 1683; and Tavistock Street was so named in honour of his grandfather, the first Duke of Bedford, who had also the title of Marquis of Tavistock.

* As an historical autograph, it possesses much interest, but is not known to be extant in any modern collection. The Earl was well known to hold the same political principles for which his son Lord William Russell, had perished on the scaffold; they were those principles which led to the placing William of Orange on the throne of these realms, yet James in his last extremity appealed to him for assistance to avert that event, and the Earl's memorable reply in reference to his son, is matter of history.

The original indenture is in the Editor's possession, and at the Bedford Office they state they have no records of this period.

* In Richard Blome's collections for the booksellers' enlarged edition of Stow's Survey, progressing at this period, of Covent Garden it is said, "the south side lieth open to Bedford Garden, where there is a small grotto of trees, most pleasant in the summer time, and on this side is kept a market for fruits, herbs, roots and flowers, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, which being well served with choice goods, makes it much resorted to, and is grown to considerable account."

HORN-BOOK OF JACOBITE TOASTS.

A B C	A blessed Change!
D E F	Drive every Foreigner!
G H I	Get home Jamie!
K L M	Keep loyal Ministers!
N O P	No oppressive Parliaments!
Q R S	Quickly return Stuart!
T U W	Tuck up Whelps!
X Y Z	'Xert your Zeal!

THE LATE J. M. W. TURNER, R.A.

In Current Notes for Jan. 1852, there are some interesting particulars respecting the late J. M. W. Turner. I take the liberty of writing to you in the hope that at some leisure moment the writer might be disposed to set down on paper any further particulars which he remembers about him; and to beg that I might be favoured by the perusal of any such notes.

Might I also ask for the privilege of a glance at the original sketch, if still existing, from which the woodcut in the Current Notes was executed. I know that in transference to wood many points of character are likely to be lost.

Denmark Hill, Camberwell. J. Ruskin.

BELFRY RHYMES.—The following lines are in St. Peter's Church, Shaftesbury. H. T. ELLACOMBE.

What Musick is there that compar'd may be,
To well-tuned Bells enchanting melody?
Breaking with their sweet sounds the willing air,
They in the list'ning ear the soul ensnare.
When Bells ring round, and in their order be,
They do denote how neighbours should agree;
But if they clam, the harsh sounds spoil the sport,
And 'tis like Woman keeping Dover Court.
Of all the music that is play'd or sung,
There's none like Bells, if they are well rung.
Then ring your Bell—well if you can,
Silence is best for ev'ry man;
In your ringing make no demur,
Pull off your hat, your belt and spur;
And if your Bell you overset,
The Ringer's Fee you must expect!

The following are in Tong Church, in Shropshire:—

If that to ring you do come here,
You must ring well with hand and ear;
Keep stroke of Time and goe not out,
Or else you forfeit, out of doubt.
Our law is so constructed here,
For ev'ry fault, a jugg of beer.
If that you ring with spur or hat,
A jugg of beer, must pay for that.
If that you take a rope in hand,
These forfeits you may not withstand.
Or, if that you a bell o'erthrow,
It will cost sixpence ere you goe.
If in this place you swear or curse,
Sixpence you pay—pull out your purse.
Come! pay the Clerk, it is his fee,
For one that swears shall not go free.
These laws are old, and are not new,
Therefore the Clerk must have his due.

GEORGE HARRISON, 1694.

Rules painted on the wall of the ringing loft in the parish church of Condover, Shropshire.

If to Ring you do come here,
You must ring well with hand and eare;
And if a bell you overthrow,
Sixpence you pay before you go.
And if you ring in spur or hat,
Fourpence you are to pay for that.
But if that you do sweare, or curse,
Twelvepence is due, pooll out your purse.
Our Laws are old, they are not new,
Both clerk and ringers claim their due.

SALOPIENSIS.

CHURCH BELL INSCRIPTIONS.—In the tower of the parish church of Swillington, situated five miles from Leeds, are three bells, two are dated 1656, the third 1732. On one of the former is the following distich:—

WHEN I DO RING: GOD'S PRAYSES SING.
WHEN I DO TOVLE: PRAY HEART AND SOVLE.

W. B.

TRADITION RESPECTING GLAMIS CASTLE.

BILLINGS, in reference to Glamis Castle, observes, it claims traditionally a high antiquity. Fordun and other chroniclers tell us, that in its neighbourhood Malcolm the Second was in 1034 attacked and mortally wounded, and that his assassins perished in attempting to cross the neighbouring loch of Forfar, then imperfectly frozen over.* Pinkerton, who was never content with doubting the truth of any historical statement, but who had always some directly opposite narrative to prove, tells us, that Malcolm the Second died a natural death at Glamis, and that the fables of Fordun and his followers concerning Malcolm's dying in a conspiracy have not a shadow of foundation.† On the other hand, tradition has so far realised and domesticated the assassination, as to shew the chamber of the castle in which it occurred; while, to put all scepticism to shame, it points out the indubitable four-posted bed in which the deed was perpetrated, and, until lately, not only were the bed and bed-hangings so exhibited, but also the stains of his blood on the floor of the same room.

That such delusions should in the olden time have obtained credence will not excite much surprise, but that they should be reiterated by modern writers could scarcely be supposed. Still such is the fact, for lately in looking over Howitt's *Visits to Remarkable Places*, I not only found the fable therein repeated, but an attempt made to confirm it, in so far as he says, "The ceiling of the room in which Malcolm was murdered, or at least died, bears in its several compartments the crown and the lion, and the initials of King Malcolm."

That Howitt's account of other remarkable places is as incorrect as that of Glamis, I have not the same means of knowing, but certain it is, that no part of the present castle of Glamis was erected for centuries after the supposed murder of Malcolm; indeed, with the exception of some trifling portions of its foundations, the centre or oldest part was not built till the time of Patrick, ninth Lord Glamis, who succeeded his father in 1578. That fact is not only attested by family documents, but is patent to all visitors, by the legend ensculptured over the entrance door, BVILT BE PATRICK LORD GLAMIS AND DAME ANNA MVRRAY.‡

Lord Glamis having been several years a minor, on obtaining his majority succeeded to a considerable property, and expended a large sum in building and enlarging the castle. He was created Earl of Kinghorn July 10, 1606,§ and dying in 1615, his son, Earl John, continued the improvements.‖ The ceiling of the great

* Baronial and Ecclesiastical Antiq. of Scotland, vol. ii.
† Enquiry into the History of Scotland, vol. ii. p. 192.
‡ Anna Murray, Countess of Glamis, was daughter of the first Earl of Tulliebardine.
§ Douglas' Peerage of Scotland, vol. ii. p. 565.
‖ Billings notices—it is traditionally stated that the later portion of this edifice is the work of Inigo Jones, but no evidence is found of the truth of that statement.

hall, as also that of the chamber, traditionally asserted to have been Malcolm's room, and bearing the date upon it of 1620, were finished in the time of Earl John. The crown, or rather coronet, and the lion therein represented, are part of the armorial bearings of the family of Glamis, and the so-called "initials of King Malcolm," are simply the initials of John, Earl of Kinghorn, and his Countess Margaret Erskine, third daughter of the Earl of Mar. Such is the real character of these emblems which have been so strangely interpreted by Howitt.

It would be idle to offer any conjecture as to the exact site at Glamis where Malcolm was killed or died; as already proved, it was not within the present castle. The tenth plate of Ancient Sculptured Monuments of Angus, etc. lithographed at the expense of the late Patrick Chalmers, Esq. of Aldbar, represents an ensculptured stone in the wood near Glamis, situated to the east of the village, and stands in the midst of a cairn of stones. Traditionally it is said to mark the place where King Malcolm fell mortally wounded. The eleventh plate presents an ancient stone obelisk or cross, at the door of the manse of Glamis,* about a mile to the south of the castle, commonly called, and so designated from time immemorial, KING MALCOLM'S GRAVE STONE, although the chronicles assert he was buried at Iona. Whether he fell there, or was buried under that stone, instead of at Icolmkill as stated by Boyce; is uncertain, but among the monuments of Angus, already referred to, there are other vestiges at Cossins and at Thornton, which are also believed to have reference to that dark tragedy.

Brechin, March 13. A. J.

SEA SONG.—Can any of your correspondents inform me where I may find a Sea Song, of which the following lines are a part:—

When 'tis night and the midwatch is come,
And chilling mists hang o'er the darkened main,
Then sailor think of thy far-distant home,
And of the friends thou ne'er mayst see again.

Arle-Bury, March 1. A. M. S. M.

BEST'S POEMS.—Perhaps some of your correspondents can inform me in your Current Notes, what were the Poems or Sonnets of Charles Best. They are old and quaint. "A Sonnet of the Sun" begins,

The sun doth make the marigold to flourish,
The sun's departure makes it droop again;
So golden Mary's sight my joys do nourish,
But by her absence all my joys are slain.

There is another Sonnet to the Moon.

Crakemarsh, March 15. M. C. S.

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* Gordon and Pennant describe the stone as situated in the church-yard.

VICTORY OR WESTMINSTER ABBEY!

SUCH has been the onslaught exclamation of more than one of Britain's naval heroes, and among the number the Victor at Trafalgar, who at that moment dreamed not of the mock honours of hero-worship which were subsequently rendered in that sacred edifice to his shrine.

The fact is, the body of Lord Nelson was entombed in St. Paul's, but a waxen effigy was set up in Westminster Abbey, and for a time exhibited there, with other figures which excited popular indignation, derisively called "the ragged regiment," but which have been many years since withdrawn by the Dean and Chapter, though that of Lord Nelson is still in safe keeping. The bills of the charges incurred in the setting up this exhibition are before the writer, and presuming they may interest the readers of Current Notes, he submits the following memoranda. The modeller entrusted to prepare the effigy was Miss C. Andras, and the bills dated March 7, 1806, are addressed by her to "the Gentlemen of the Committee."

For a model of the late Lord Nelson	70	0	0
For gold lace, etc. as per Barrett's bill	17	0	4½
For a full dress coat, as per Murray's bill	4	4	0
For painting background of the case, as per Aglio's receipt	4	4	0
Paid Lord Nelson's servant for cloaths	5	5	0
1 yard and a ¼ ribbon, Order of the Bath	0	8	1½
Narrow ribbon for the medal	0	2	0
A gilt medal	0	10	0
Sword	1	10	0
Buckles	0	9	0
Canvas for painting of back ground	0	11	9
Paid Mr. Gravell for putting it up	0	10	6
	104	14	9
Armstrong and Wyatt's bill for work done at the Collegiate Church of St. Peter's, Westminster, for making and putting up case for figure of Lord Nelson, fixing plinth, carrying the same to Pall Mall, moving the case, etc.; a long and minute account	13	6	11¼
Total	118	1	8¼

AMERICAN SONG, YANKEE DOODLE.

THE original words of the revolutionary song, Yankee Doodle, set to that tune, are thus reproduced in the *Albany Argus*, with the following remarks by the editor.

In the summer of 1775, the British army under command of Abercrombie, lay encamped on the east bank of the Hudson river, a little south of the city of Albany, awaiting reinforcements of militia from the Eastern States, previous to marching upon Ticonderoga. During the month of June these raw levies poured into camp, company after company, each man differently armed, equipped and accoutred from his neighbour, and the whole presenting

such a spectacle as was never equalled, unless by the celebrated regiment of merry Jack Falstaff. Their *outré* appearance furnished great amusement to the British officers. One Dr. Shamburg, an English surgeon, composed the tune of Yankee Doodle, and arranged it to words, which were gravely dedicated to the new recruits. The joke took, and the tune has come down to this day. The original words we have not met with for many years.

Father and I went down to camp,
  Along with Captain Goodwin,
And there we saw the men and boys
  As thick as hasty pudding.

And there was Captain Washington
  Upon a slapping stallion,
A giving orders to his men—
  I guess there was a million.

And then the feathers on his hat,
  They looked so tarnal finey,
I wanted peskily to get
  To give to my Jemima.

And there they had a swampin' gun,
  As big as a log of maple,
On a duced little cart—
  A load for father's cattle.

And every time they fired it off,
  It took a horn of powder;
It made a noise like father's gun,
  Only a nation louder.

I went as near to it myself,
  As Jacob's underpinnin',
And father went as near again—
  I thought the deuce was in him.

[It scared me so I ran the streets,
  Nor stopped, as I remember,
'Till I got home and safely locked
  In granny's little chamber.]

And there I see a little keg,
  Its heads were made of leather,
They knocked upon 't with little sticks,
  To call the folks together.

And there they'd fife away like fun,
  And play on cornstalk fiddles,
And some had ribbons red as blood
  All bound around their middles.

The troopers too, would gallop up,
  And fire right in our faces;
It scared me almost half to death,
  To see them run such races.

Uncle Sam came there to change
  Some pancakes and some onions,
For 'lasses cakes to carry home,
  To give his wife and young ones.

But I can't tell you half I see,
  They kept up such a smother;
So I took my hat off, made a bow,
  And scamper'd home to mother.

The song is also printed in Farmer and Moore's Historical Collections, 1820, the verse within brackets, being there omitted.

ROMAN VASE FOUND AT DORCHESTER.

About forty years since some very interesting specimens of red glazed Roman pottery, more generally designated Samian ware, were found near Dorchester. As usual, they were chiefly amphoræ, pateræ, and lachrymatories; but from the very superficial depth in which they had been deposited, they were, when discovered, for the most part reduced to fragments. Among the few which were found whole was a vase, very elegant in form, and having numerous figures in bas-relief. Dr.

Mantell of Lewes became the possessor, and he presented it to the Rev. J. Douglas, of Preston, F.S.A., who on receiving it, forwarded the following remarks:

Your Roman relic came safe to hand, and I take the first opportunity to return you my kindest thanks. These vessels I have classed under the name of Samian, from Pliny, "Samia etiamnum in esculentis laudanter," lib. xxx. cap. 13; and I find this name is now generally adopted, by way of discrimination, from the other specimens of Roman pottery, discovered wherever these surprising people established their stations. They appear to have been made of the clay of Saguntum, often mentioned by the Romans, and were certainly introduced into this country from classic ground. Thus Martial,

Ficta Saguntino $\frac{\text{cymbia}}{\text{pocula}}$ malo luto. Lib. viii. Epigr. 6;

and again,

Sume Saguntino pocula malo luto. Lib. xiv. Epigr. 108.

When in the shape of pateræ, they have the maker's name. I have several of them, and numerous fragments, but of the shape of the one you kindly imparted, not one so perfect; and I prize it because it has an inscription upon it, IMANNIO, with the potter's stamp, which he intended for IMANNIS;* meaning savage nature, in allusion to the bear hunting the stag, and the wolf the hind, with the wild goats

* An erroneous reading. It is a potter's mark, but reads reversely CINNAMI. The name is known and found on other specimens.—Ed.

and marks of wild plants. The mistake of the potter using C for S, often occurs on other Roman inscriptions.

These paterse and vessels are frequently discovered surrounding the urn which contained the ashes of the dead; they often occur *extra menia*, near Roman stations, but not being explored correctly, as chance led to the discovery, they have too often been smashed by the labourer's tools, and as they seldom lay very deep in the ground, *terra levis*,* the usual order of Roman burial, with no mound of earth over them, they are generally discovered broken by the incumbent weight of cattle, carriages, etc.

The site at Dorchester, where the pottery was found, is probably on the outside walls of the Station. When a Roman town it was encompassed with a wall, twelve feet thick; on the west side some remains are still visible. This station was founded by Vespasian on his conquest of the Belgæ, and called Durnovaria, meaning the passage over the river.

The woodcut is executed from a private etching by Mrs. Mary Ann Mantell.

Dorchester. JOHN GARLAND.

PRESIDENTS OF AMERICA.

THE following curious coincidences in the names and lives of the first seven Presidents of the United States —Washington, John Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, John Quincy Adams, and Jackson, may interest the readers of Current Notes.

Four of the seven were from Virginia. Two of the same name were from Massachusetts, and the seventh was from Tennessee. All but one were sixty-six years old on leaving office, having served two terms; and one of those who served but one term would have been sixty-six years of age at the end of another. Three of the seven died on the 4th day of July, and two of them on the same day and year. Two of them were on the sub-committee of three that draughted the Declaration of Independence, and these two died on the same day and year, on the anniversary of the declaration of Independence, and just half a century from the day of declaration.

The names of three of the seven end in *son*, yet neither of these transmitted his name to a son. In respect to the names of all, it may in conclusion be said, the initials of two of the seven were the same—and of two others that they were the same—and the initials of still two others were the same. The remaining one in this particular—WASHINGTON—stands also alone in the love and admiration of his countrymen and the civilized world. Of the first five, one only had a son, and that son was also President.

Another curious fact may be mentioned in this connection—neither of the Presidents who had sons was elected for the second term.

The granddaughter of Thomas Jefferson is now teaching in a school in the city of Washington.

* So the common sepulchral inscription used among the Romans S T T L, the second T being sometimes a diphthong T E, implying SIT TIBI TERRA LEVIS, or as Byron poetically expresses it, "Light be the turf of thy Tomb."

SIMON'S HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF IRISH COINS.

IN the library of the College of Physicians, Dublin, are deposited three volumes of Manuscript Minutes of the Physico-Historical Society of Dublin. From them the following are extracts relative to a volume that has deservedly received the highest commendation.

Monday, December 7, 1747. Mr. Simon produced an Essay on Irish Coins, which is referred to the perusal of Dr. Corbet and Mr. Harris.

Monday, January 4, 1747-8. Mr. Harris reported, that on the perusal of Mr. Simon's Account of Irish Coins by himself and the Rev. Dr. Corbet, it appeared to them worthy of publication.

Ordered, that Mr. Simon's Account of Irish Coins be published by and with the approbation of this Society.

Monday, October 3, 1748. Ordered, that the sum of Six pounds eight shillings be paid to Mr. James Simon, for eight copper plates, for his Essay on Irish Coins.

The very small charge of sixteen shillings for each plate is remarkable. The Rev. Dr. Corbet was Dean of St. Patrick's, and Mr. Harris, the editor of the valuable edition of Sir James Ware's Historical Works.

Dublin, March 14. A. S.

PRE-ADAMITE PICTURES IN NATIONAL GALLERY.

THE result of the last ill-advised and most injudicious purchase of the Krüger Collection from Minden, to enrich our National Gallery, has been that 47 of the pictures are deemed too bad and too monstrous for vulgar gaze, and are consequently set aside in the vaults of the building. The remaining 17, after being repainted and repaired, to make things pleasant, are placed in one of the side rooms to excite general contempt. An admirer of art, on leaving the National Gallery, asked a friend if he had noticed the Pre-Raphaelite pictures? "No," said he, and on being shewn the Krüger daubs exclaimed, "Pre-Raphaelite! nonsense; Pre-Adamite you mean."

POLISH NAMES.—In reply to C. M.'s query as to the pronunciation of Polish names, the following may possibly aid his enquiry.

All vowels sound the same as in French and Italian, every vowel being distinctly pronounced, and there are no diphthongs. The consonants are the same as in English, excepting the following. *C* sounds like *tz* and nurc*k*, thus Pac is pronounced *Patz*. *Ch* like the Greek χ, thus Lech, as *Lek*. *Cz* like the English *tch* in pitch, thus Czartoryski is pronounced *Tchartoriski*. *G* sounds the same as in Gibbon, thus is pronounced *Oginski*. *Rz* like *j* in je, with a slight sound of *r*, thus Rzewaski is pronounced *Rjevuski*. *Sz* is sounded like *sh* in the word shape, thus Staszkyc is pronounced *Stashytz*. *Szcz* is sounded like Shtch, thus the word Szcerbiec is pronounced *Shtcherbietz*. *W* at the beginning of a word is sounded as a *v*, and in the middle or at the end of a word as *f*, thus in the former case Warsaw is pronounced *Varsafa*; and in the latter sense Narew as *Naref*.

CLEVER.—This word, besides its legitimate sense, has two provincial uses. In East Norfolk, it denotes honesty and integrity. Thus, a clever man does not mean skilful, but honest and respectable.

The epithet, in Lancashire, is not applied to either mental or moral qualities, but to the body, and denotes a stout, athletic man. Thus, persons of portly build may overhear the natives observe, "Theer's a cliver chap," and entertain a tolerably good opinion of their natural acuteness, unless kindly undeceived by some friend more conversant with the peculiar sense in which the word is used among the Lancashire witches.

PRESCOTT, THE HISTORIAN.—A correspondent to the Boston (American) Journal of Commerce, forwards the following agreeable communication—

The numerous readers of the charming histories of Mr. William H. Prescott, may be glad, to hear a word of the historian himself. He appears daily in our streets, and may be often seen taking long walks for the preservation of his health. He is now at his winter's residence, on Beacon street, where he spends about nine months of the year. The other three months he has generally spent at Nahant and Pepperell, at both of which places he has country seats most congenial to the pursuits of an author.

Mr. Prescott is as systematic in his daily studies as any Boston merchant, and as great a miser of the minutes. As many have learned, he was so unfortunate as to lose one of his eyes while in Harvard College. By this loss, the other eye became weakened through over-work, so that, practically, he has written his histories as the blind write, or with an apparatus such as they use. And yet he has scarcely the appearance of any difficulty of sight, but recognizes his friends in the street with that single faithful eye.

When engaged in writing, Mr. Prescott, writes rapidly, averaging about seven of the printed pages of his volume daily. His secretary copies his manuscript in a good plain hand for the printer. He is now diligently composing a history of Philip II. His private library is very valuable, particularly in the department of the subjects of his present and past investigations. His library contains nearly six thousand volumes. It is a picture of a room, that the proprietor had constructed for his special use, as he did his study, some distance above it towards the heavens, where his beautiful compositions are produced.

That Mr. Prescott, with his physical embarrassments, has accomplished so much towards forming an American standard literature is quite a marvel. Another wonder is, that though he has been confined to his books and his study for forty years, as closely as the monk to his cloister, he has nothing of the scholastic manner, but the ease and polish of a gentleman wholly in society.

HIGHLAND WIVES.—Shortly after the battle of Balaklava, in which the Scots Greys and the Highlanders were prominently concerned; Sir Colin Campbell proceeded to meet a flag of truce from the Russians, when he was asked, who the people were who fought in petticoats. He replied, they were the wives of the men who rode the grey-horses!

THE LOST SURVEY OF SEBASTOPOL.—The possession of the Crimea is not a very modern idea; to the antients it was considered a valuable acquisition, but in the middle ages it was lost sight of. About the year 1780 the Russians, under Catherine II., began to see its importance: for twenty years, however, they did little towards securing its coasts against the Turks, by whom it had lately been conceded.

In Dr. E. D. Clarke's Travels through Russia, Turkey, etc. vol. 1. ch. 20, p. 488, etc. FIRST EDITION, 4to. there is the best account of the whole country as to climate, and the productions, anywhere to be met with: he was much assisted by the late Reginald Heber, afterwards Bishop of Calcutta.

When the Emperor Paul allied Russia with France in the war against England in 1801, it was much more important to England to drive the French out of Egypt than to attack the Russians in the Crimea, which was then almost defenceless.

Dr. Clarke had obtained *an accurate survey of the coast*, with all the soundings in the port of *Aktiar*, since called *Sebastopol;* and the entrance to the roads, as well as the situation and quality of the magazines, artillery and storehouses. This document he presented both to the then British Ambassador in Constantinople and to Lord Keith, the Commander of our fleet there, but it was not made use of. It was confided to Dr. Clarke's care by one who wished well to the British interest: Heber says he was an Englishman settled at Aktiar. This important survey Dr. Clarke brought away, he says, at the hazard of his life.

The affairs in Egypt occupied us too long to turn our views elsewhere at that time.

Dr. Clarke therefore "deposited the *papers in the "Admiralty office*, and engraved only the principal "Chart for his work."

In every subsequent edition of his travels, Dr. Clarke omitted this portion of the note I have above transcribed, without giving any reason for it. Could it be owing to his having been appointed "Historiographer to the Admiralty," and that they wished this fact to be kept a secret?

I hope you will extend your "*Queries*," to find out this important document, which might acquaint the public how careless and ignorant our officials are, high and low, of what is committed to their custody: our expedition to the Crimea was sent out without knowing where it was to land, and it is now wofully proved without the least notion of the difficulties of that country.

Clarke's Travels is the best work published within the last half century, but is ungratefully forgotten; Murray's Hand-Book of Turkey is the work referred to by our high officials, and they thus pretend to know everything almost by intuition.

Delirant Reges plectuntur Achivi.

March 17. T. F. G.

CHURCHYARDS.—Whence arose the practice of burying suicides, or those who met with a violent death, those who died in a questionable accordance with the sanctity of the Church, as also the unfortunate and the poor, in what was termed the unhallowed part of the churchyard? I have read it was on the north side; was it always so?

Chester, March 8. SPES.

Unhallowed is possibly not altogether a correct appellation. The common entrance into churches was usually either at the west end, or on the south side; and as most altar-tombs or other mementoes of the departed in the churchyards, when Papacy was dominant, enjoined the praying for the dead and for the quiet of their souls, a custom which was believed to be very efficacious, the appeal to the devout was followed by the ejaculation and the benediction; while those buried on the north side of the church being beyond the pathway to the church escaped notice, and their graves in no way denoted, their place of sepulture rarely obtained the expiatorial prayers of the passer by—they were mingled with their parent earth unblessed and unheeded.

J. C. D., Current Notes, p. 14, will find the lines commencing "But Words are Things," in Byron's *Don Juan*, canto III. stanza 88.

Birmingham, Feb. 26. ESTE.

To R. B. we are indebted for the same reference.

THE following beautiful lines were presented in 1648, with an Indian perfume box, to MARIE DE MANCINI.

The Florence rose is fresh and fair,
And rich the young Carnation's glow,
Wreathing in Beauty's ebon hair,
Or lying on her breast of snow:
But only Violet shall twine
Thy ebon tresses, Lady mine!

Oh! dazzling shines the noon-day sun,
So kingly in his golden car;
But sweeter 'tis when day is done,
To watch the ev'ning's dewy star,
In silence lighting field and grove,
How like my heart, how like my love!

Then Lady, lowly at thy feet,
I lay this gift of memory;
All strange and rude, but treasures sweet
Within its gloomy bosom lie;
Trifles MARIE, may tell the tale,
When wisdom, wit, and courage fail.

PULCI.

I transcribed these lines on the continent from a manuscript volume of verses; of course the reputed writer is not to be confounded with either the Barnard, Luca, or Luigi Pulci of the fifteenth century, the last named being the author of the *Morgante Maggiore;* but having failed to discover the Italian original, or to have seen a printed version of the translation; may I ask, can any correspondent of Current Notes point to where the original lines are to be found.

Rammerscales, March 1. W. B. M.

PREPAID ENVELOPES AND RECEIVING BOXES.

ON the 5th inst., the writer noticed the placing an iron receiving pillar-box for letters to be forwarded by the postal authorities, in Fleet Street, at the corner of Farringdon Street, and on the 6th, another in the Strand, at the corner of Norfolk Street. This was, more than two centuries since, the custom in the French metropolis. Early in the reign of Louis XIV., M. de Velayer, with the king's approbation, established in 1653, a private penny-post, placing boxes at the corners of the streets for the reception of letters wrapped in prepaid envelopes, which were sold at offices established for that purpose, and whence dates the origin of prepaid postage envelopes, by many believed to be a new practice.

M. de Velayer, to assist communication between persons among whom the inditing of letters was a matter of some difficulty, originated also certain forms of *billets* or notes applicable to the ordinary business requirements, with blanks which were to be filled in by the pen with such special words as would complete the writer's object. One of these *billets* has reached our time by a humourous misapplication of its purpose. Pelisson, well known as the friend of Madame de Sévigné, and the object of the *bon-mot* that, from his very unhandsome face, "he abused the privilege which men have of being ugly;" being amused at this kind of skeleton correspondence, he, in accordance with the pedantic fashion of the day, addressed one of these forms to the celebrated Mademoiselle de Scuderi, in her pseudonyme of Sappho; under the affected name of *Pisandre*. From the celebrity of the parties, this strange *billet-doux* has been preserved and is yet extant; one of the oldest, it may be presumed, of penny post letters, and an interesting example of a prepaid envelope, verifying the adage, "there is nothing new under the sun." B.

EASTER COURT FROLICS.

THE Cottonian MS. Nero C.viii., in the British Museum, records among other payments; March 27, 1311, 4 Edward II., "To Sir Nicholas de Beche, Sir Humphrey de Luttlebury, and Sir Thomas de Latimer, for dragging the King out of bed, on Easter Monday, 20*l.*"

ENGLISH EPISTOLARY CORRESPONDENCE.

Considering only the Epistolary language, the English have nothing comparable with the letters of Madame de Sévigné. The letters of Pope, Swift, Arbuthnot, Bolingbroke, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, and lastly, those of Junius, which are supposed to be by Sir Philip Francis, are works, not letters: they are all more or less like the letters of the Younger Pliny, and of Voiture. For my own part, I should prefer to them, a few letters of the unfortunate Lord William Russell, of Lady Russell, of Miss Anna Seward, and the little that we know of the letters of Lord Byron. *Chateaubriand.*

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LII.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [APRIL, 1855.

CORRESPONDENCE OF MARIE ANTOINETTE.

CAN any of your readers give me information respecting "*Les Correspondances de Marie Antoinette*," which, according to Madame Campan, were in 1792 sent out of France? That these papers were of great value, or very sacred in the Queen's eyes, may be inferred from their having been rescued from the fate which the others underwent after the sad June 20, of that year. I believe the report of these papers having been sent to England to be well authenticated; at all events, it is generally received as true, in this country and in France. I had an assurance of its truth from a lady, who was educated by Madame Campan, and became afterwards Lectrice to the Empress Marie Louise; she had heard Madame Campan frequently relate the circumstances.

This precious deposit is reported to be quietly reposing in the British Museum—the authorities, however, deny all knowledge of it, and I do not see why their word should be called in question. There are others who say, that it is in the hands of Monsieur Feuillet de Conches, Master of Ceremonies to Louis XVIII., and now filling a similar post in the household of the Emperor of the French. This latter opinion has weight with me; for I had my information from a distinguished foreign ambassador, and I know Mons. Feuillet to be a collector of historical documents connected with the Revolution.

The private correspondence of the Duke of Dorset would furnish a key to much of the little understood policy of Louis XVI.; but what has become of it, for it is not now in the archives of Knowle Park, where his Grace died? Lord Whitworth's letters, after his transfer to Paris, are not to be found, and I have failed to discover a trace of those that passed between St. Petersburg and Paris, from M. Whitworth to the Duke of Dorset, and *vice versa*. The Count de Fersen's letters are extant somewhere. I have been told they are at Vienna in the hands of Count Schulenberg. Those of the great Franklin are now in the course of publication, as a supplement to his works and correspondence, which have already been given to the public; they were accidentally discovered in a tailor's shop, by the gentleman I believe, who so worthily represents in this country the Smithsonian Institution in the United States.

J. L.

GLAMIS.—Our correspondent having recently visited Glamis Castle, on comparing the woodcut, Current Notes, p. 20, with the original, finds he had omitted in his sketch, a line attached to the K, which if shown as in the lower part of the E would form an L, and thus also express in addition the surname of Lyon.

CURRER BELL.—Mrs. Nichol, formerly Miss Brontë, the last survivor of a family of six, died at her father's house at Haworth, in Yorkshire, on Saturday, March 31. Under the *nom de plume* of CURRER BELL, she established a lasting reputation as the authoress of *Jane Eyre*. There are also two other Novels from her pen, entitled *Shirley*, and *Villette*, which like the former are especially distinguished by great power of conception, and vigorous pourtrayal of character.

THE SEVEN WHISTLERS.

IN reference to this very popular Leicestershire superstition, the following paragraph has appeared in a local paper:

On Friday, the 16th inst., a collier was making holiday in the Market place in this town (Coalville), and was asked by a tradesman, why he was not at his usual work. The reply he made was, that none of the men had gone to work on that day because they had heard the Seven Whistlers, which he said were birds sent by Providence to warn them of an impending danger, and that when they heard that signal not a man would go down the pit until the following day. Upon the tradesman's suggesting that the collier's account might all be traced to superstition, the poor collier was offended to find his story called in question, and assured the tradesman that the warning was always to be depended upon, for that on two occasions previous to last Friday, when the Seven Whistlers were heard, some colliers foolishly descended the pit, and two lives were lost on each occasion.

Respecting the prevalence of this imposing superstition among the colliers in this neighbourhood, I have made enquiries of a legal friend, whose official duties bring him in frequent contact with them. He informs me, that it is very generally entertained and believed by them, but that when trade is brisk, and money among them plentiful, disposing them for a drinking frolic, they are then far more apt to hear the warning voice of the Seven Whistlers, than when less favourably situated.

I shall be glad to be informed whether this superstition prevails in other colliery districts, which I suppose to be the case, although I do not find it noticed by Brand.

Leicester, March 27. WILLIAM KELLY.

The Editor having written on this subject to a friend, was favoured with the following reply:

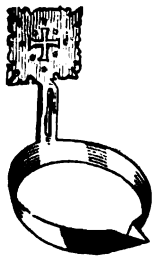
I have made several enquiries amongst the coal miners in the Newcastle, Northumberland and Durham coal districts, none of whom can call to mind anything of the sort.

High Street, Gateshead, April 2. JOHN BELL.

MONASTIC CELL LAMP.

ABBOTSBURY, once a town, is a village about ten miles from Dorchester, and eight from Weymouth, on the coast near that singular natural bank, called the pebble beach, which extends from Portland, and between which and the shore is an estuary or fleet in which the sea ebbs and flows. This place is now remarkable only for its swannery, the property of the Earl of Ilchester, who has a seat near to it, and is the Lord of the Manor. Here, however, was once a monastery, founded by Orcus, or Urkus, steward to King Canute. Many portions in a ruined state remain, but the chapel, named St. Catherine's Chapel, a graceful and very perfect building, is yet extant, situated on the summit of a very high hill, designated Chapel Hill. In a corner of this chapel is a stone to which is attached the legendary belief, that any young person who kneels upon it, and wishes for his or her sweetheart, marriage in a short time will ensue,

In or about 1823 or 1824, the Rev. —— Barker, Vicar of Abbotsbury, discovered in the cottage of an old woman, then nearly a hundred years old, the lamp of which this is a representation.—



It is of thin copper about the fourth of an inch in thickness, and about three inches in diameter, the handle being about four inches high. The edges of the square are partly broken; the cross and circular holes appear to have been punched out of the metal. The whole is of rude fabric, and in the bowl or pan, some material for yielding light is still remaining. The old woman on being questioned, stated "it was something out of the old Abbey, that was used in the cloisters," and was found by her in the ruins.

It is now in the possession of Mr. Barker's daughter, the wife of the Rev. J. Foster, Rector of Winterborne Monkton, near Dorchester. Can any reader of Current Notes add any further illustration in reference to this "light of other days?"

Dorchester, April 5. JOHN GARLAND.

NANCY DAWSON.—In Current Notes, 1853, p. 72, is an enquiry by W. F., for the words of the song entitled, "Nancy Dawson," to the tune of which many others have been since written, It appears to have escaped notice, that the song is printed in Harrison's Vocal Magazine, 1781, p. 67; and from the allusion in the text to have reference to the memorably successful season at Covent Garden, Sept. 1759—May, 1760. On October 10, Miss Brent made her debut as Polly, in the Beggars' Opera, with so much eclat, that it was performed on nearly forty successive nights, while at Drury Lane, Garrick played to literally empty houses. Davies erroneously attributes Garrick's seceding from the stage for a time previous to the commencement of the season, 1763-4, to the attractions of Miss Brent, and the musical performances at Covent Garden in that of 1762-3. The fact is, the reverses at Drury Lane perceptibly commenced in the season that ended in June, 1760, and continued to the close of that in 1763, when the profits were found to be much less than in any of the preceding years, and Garrick wisely left London for the continent in September, 1763. The song has all the racy whim of that luckless wight George Alexander Stevens, and was probably written by him.

NANCY DAWSON.

Of all the girls in our town,
The black, the fair, the red, the brown,
Who dance and prance it up and down;
There's none like NANCY DAWSON!
Her easy mien, her shape so neat,
She foots, she trips, she looks so sweet,
Her ev'ry motion is complete—
I die for NANCY DAWSON!

See how she comes to give surprise,
With joy and pleasure in her eyes;
To give delight she always tries,
So means my NANCY DAWSON.
Was there no task t' obstruct the way,
No Shuter droll, nor house so gay,
A bet of fifty pounds I'll lay,
That I gain'd NANCY DAWSON.

See how the Op'ra takes a run,
Exceeding Hamlet, Lear, or Lun,
Though in it there would be no fun,
Was 't not for NANCY DAWSON.
Tho' Beard and Brent charm ev'ry night,
And female Peachum's justly right,
And Filch and Lockit please the sight,
'Tis crown'd by NANCY DAWSON.

See little Davy strut and puff,—
"P— on the Op'ra and such stuff,
My house is never full enough,
A curse on NANCY DAWSON!"
Though Garrick he has had his day,
And forc'd the Town his laws t'obey;
Now Johnny Rich* is come in play,
With help of NANCY DAWSON.

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* Johnny Rich *alias* Harlequin Lun, resided at this time in the eastern arcade, or piazza as it is commonly termed, in Covent Garden, in the house next to the Bedford Arms Hotel. It was formerly the residence of Sir Godfrey Kneller, whose garden extended to that of Dr. Radcliffe, who then lived in Bow Street, in the house now the Magistrate's Office. Sir Godfrey, a great admirer of flowers, paid particular attention to the floral beauties of his garden, but found that the Doctor's servants sometimes made their way in by a door in the wall, and deprived him of many choice flowers: of this, having several times but ineffectually complained to Dr. Radcliffe, Sir Godfrey sent him word, that though unwilling to do an uncivil thing, he should in his own defence nail up the door-way between them. Dr. Radcliffe, who perhaps thought it beneath him to notice these squabbles, replied, Sir Godfrey might do as he pleased provided he did not paint the door. "Ah! ah!" retorted Kneller, "go tell my goot friend the Doctor, I will take any thing from him but his physic."

PETER PINDAR'S ANNUITY.

J. P., in Current Notes, 1854, p. 92, asks, What was the Doctor's annuity? It was 250 pounds. The circumstances are thus related by the late William West, who died recently in Charter House, in his eighty-fourth year.

Dr. John Wolcot made an immense sum by his writings, which commenced with his Epistle to the Reviewers, published by the Egertons in 1783. His subsequent publisher was George Kearsley, who brought out his rapidly produced poems in quarto, with spirited etchings, for several years, until Evans took them up, when they formed an immense quarto volume. The sale had been prodigious, and as Peter, like many other poets, had not been the most provident or prudent of that class, the purchase of his works became an object of speculation with Robinson, and his brother-in-law, Walker, who entered into a treaty to grant an annuity for his published works, and on certain conditions for his unpublished ones, which is thus accurately described in the Doctor's own style.

While this treaty was pending, Wolcot had an attack of asthma, which he did not conceal or palliate, but at meetings of the parties his asthma always interrupted the business. A fatal result was of course anticipated, and instead of a sum of money, an annuity of 250*l.* a year was preferred. Soon after the bond was signed the Doctor went into Cornwall, where he recovered his health, and returned to London without any cough, which was far from being a pleasing sight to the persons who had to pay his annuity. One day he called on John Walker, the manager for the parties, who surveying him with a scrutinizing eye, asked him how he did? "Much better, thank you," said Wolcot, "I have taken measure of my asthma; the fellow is troublesome, but I know his strength, and am his master." "Oh!" said Walker gravely, and turned into an adjoining room, where Mrs. Walker, a prudent woman, had been listening to the conversation. Wolcot, aware of the feeling, while paying a strict attention to the husband and wife, heard the latter exclaim, "There now, did'nt I tell you, he would'nt die."

A plea was then set up that the agreement extended to all future productions as well as the past, and on this ground an action was commenced, but was subsequently compromised. The Doctor, as he told me, had no idea the Paternoster Row booksellers should drink all their wine out of his skull; that he was aware the fellows were playing cards upon his coffin-lid, and exclaimed, that as

> Care to our Coffin adds a nail no doubt,
> While ev'ry grin so merry draws one out,

he regretted that he did not add a little more to his income by coughing a little more. Wolcot enjoyed the joke, and outlived both parties. R. T.

CHARLES BEST, Current Notes, p. 20; noticed by Ritson, as a poet of the sixteenth century, has several Sonnets and Odes in Davison's Poetical Rhapsody, 1602, 8vo.

FORFARSHIRE TRADITIONS.

THE following Scottish ballad illustrates a tradition having reference to the parish of Pert, now united to that of Logy, in the north-eastern part of Forfarshire; and also embodies some superstitions of the same locality, with respect to the supposed power of conjuring or laying ghosts. It is however becoming obsolete by the removal of many of the old families of the district, and ere long may possibly pass out of memory. By some of the older folks, it is thus narrated:—A simple herd-boy having excited the ire of the laird of Pert, the latter, a powerful man, flung the unconscious victim of his anger among a cairn of stones, and killed him. The circumstances having caused some inquiry, the laird to exculpate himself charged one of his own ploughmen with the perpetration of the murder; for which in those days, when might was right, he was hanged accordingly. The fact was however traditionally transmitted, and the particulars related in the ballad obtained a general belief among the peasantry, that the spirit of the boy was emancipated, and the laird, in consequence of the conjurations of the miller, for a time wandered under the murky cloud of night, between the kirk of Pert, and an old ford in the river below the North-water bridge. All the events related by the rhymer, were formerly in very general belief.

The old kirk of Pert so prominent in the ballad, is now a picturesque ruin upon the banks of the North Esk, not unlike that of 'auld haunted' Alloway on the Doon, eternised in the memorable lines of Robert Burns. The locality has otherwise many attractions, both historical and literary. At Burnroot, a few paces south of the upper North-water bridge, was born in a humble cottage, James Mill, the historian of India; a drawing of his birth-place, with some further notices, may be expected for Current Notes.

Brechin, April 11. A. J,

THE PERJURED LAIRD'S DOOM.

Whane'er the gowden sun gade doun,
  An' gloomie ev'nin' fell;
Frae fireless flame of azure hue,
  By the foot o'Pert's kirke bell;

Ane winsome boy there wont to come,
  With slaeblack eyne an' hair;
His cheiks an' lips were deadlie pale,
  An' feet an' breast were bare.

Thoch' lang atween the kirke an' furd,
  This sprite awand'rin' went,
Nae livin' either heard its tale,
  Or cause of mourning kent.

But ae dark nichte's ane miller chiel'
  Had langst the road to go,
The lad kept rinnin' by his side,
  Lamentin' o'er his wo.

An' whan they reacht the kirkeyard style,
  He cry'd—"O list to me;
An' set ane harmless murdert boy,
  Frae lanelie wand'rin' free!"

The sturdie miller aft heard tell
That sic a sprite was seen;
Thoch laith to bide ane ghastlie ca',
At last he's courage ta'en,

An' 'bout himsell wi' hazell staff,
He made ane roundlie score;
Then said—"Ma lad, in name o' Gude,*
What doe ye wander for?"

The laddie ga'e ane eldritch screech—
Ane wulsome luik an' bauld;
An' aye's he spak the thunder roll'd,
An' fire-flauchts ne'er devaul'd.

"There, there's the cairn!" the laddie screamt,
"Whare life was ta'en frae me;
For whilk ane guiltless hireman died
Hie on yon wither'd tree—
Whase life the murd'rer swore awa,
To save's ain infamie:

"But, ho!" mair shrillie cried the boy,
With eye on lordlie grave;
"Come forth thou perjur'd laird o' Pert,
Thy name it winna save!

"Not all thy gifts to hallie kirke,
Or alms thou did'st bestow,
Will lay the clouds o' sin an' shame
That round thy mem'rie flow!"

On this ane grizzlie form appear'd,
An' frae the kirke wa' hied—
"Ah! there's the murd'rous laird o' Pert!"
The laddie tremblin' cried.

The hoarie sprite was mute, an' fain
Wad been to whence it came;
But aye's it near'd the darksome grave,
There rose a smoth'rin' flame;

An' wi' that flame, frae hallie kirke
The laird's rich gifts were thrown;
While sprites of ancient kith an' kin,
A' sang this waefu' tone—

"Sin'-Heav'n denies thee an' thy wealth,
Sae surelie too shall we:
For thoch thou be our ain brither,
We hate all perjurie!

"An' frae our fam'lie toumbe for aye,
Thy name it shall be ta'en;
An' but in page of blude an' shame,
Nae trace o' thee'll be seen!"

* * * *

Bereft of friends an' hopes of peace,
With grief the laird was pain'd;
His sprite flew here, an' then flew there,
An' peace it ne'er obtain'd;

Till frae the Esk ane frichtsome fiend,
With joyful clamour flies;
An' fondly graspt the laird, as gin
He'd been his wedded prize!

An' just's they fled, a siller cloud
Drew round the guiltless boy,
That bore him frae this land of woe;
To shades of heav'nlie joy!

But frae that irksome nichte, I trow,
The miller was sad an' lane:
An' in the joviall house of mirth
Again he ne'er was seen.

* In the art of 'laying ghaists,' this is ever an important precautionary proceeding, because it is superstitiously yet absurdly believed, that if the conjurer describe the circle in the name of the Deity, no spirit can enter it, but, if that particular be neglected, the circle is made in vain, and there are then a thousand to one chances of his being attacked by the spirits, and deprived of life.

CONSTABLE'S PICTURE, "THE WHITE HORSE."

In 1819, when Constable's art was never more perfect, or perhaps never so perfect as at this period of his life; he exhibited at the Royal Academy, the largest and most important work he had yet produced, "A scene on the river Stour," since designated from a white horse in a barge near the fore-ground "Constable's White Horse." Deservedly it attracted more attention than any other painting he had before presented at that exhibition. In his letter to Archdeacon Fisher, July 17th in that year, we learn, "The price I have put on my large landscape is one hundred guineas, exclusive of the frame; it has served a good apprenticeship in the Academy, and I shall work a good deal upon it before it goes to the British Gallery." The distinction this picture obtained for Constable, caused his being elected in November following an Associate of the Academy. The Archdeacon congratulated the artist on his honourable election, and confirmed his sincerity of the compliment by purchasing his picture of "the White Horse." Constable appears to have retained it some time for effecting his finishing touches, which he appears to have accomplished in the spring of 1820. The Archdeacon's letter, dated Salisbury, April 27, joyously intimates—"The White Horse has arrived safe; it is hung on a level with the eye, the frame resting on the ogee moulding, in a western side-light, right for the light in the picture. It looks magnificently. My wife says she carries her eye from the picture to the garden and back again, and observes the same sort of look in both. I have shewn it to no one, and intend to say nothing about it, but leave it to people to find it out, and make their own remarks."

The White Horse was to Constable on many accounts the most important picture he ever painted, and certainly one of the finest. In a letter written to Miss Gubbins, at a late period of his life, he noticed it, as "one of my happiest efforts on a large scale, being a placid représentation of a serene grey morning in summer."

In Leslie's Memoirs of Constable, printed in 1845, he speaks of the picture being then in the possession of L. Archer Burton, Esq. of the Woodlands, in Hampshire. On Saturday, March 31, it was sold at Messrs. Christie and Manson's for six hundred guineas.

On the fly-leaf of a copy of Leigh's Accedence of Armory, 1612, 4to. purchased at the Stowe library sale, is the following sonnet, in manuscript.

Heraldry is a noble Arte,
It doth confound the upstarte,
Sheweth where True Honour liues,
And right Precedence truly giues.
In happy glorious Times of olde,
None Blazons bore but Barons bolde,
We prized them for their noble blood,
They scorn'd the bad, they help'd the good.
Great in Power and Military,
Virtue was then Nobility;
But now, alacke! in modern Times,
The Lords are altered like our Rymes:
Princes not Peeres now blazon round,
And sense is giuen up for sounde.

WILLIAM DOUGLAS,

April 1, 1628.

BAAL-ZEPHON: THE GOD OF THE NORTH.

Was it the shout of storms, that rent the sky?
The rush of many a whirlwind from its lair?
Or, be the fierce Maozzim* loose on high?
The old Gods of the North: the Demons of the Air?

Those Tartar Hills! billowy with writhing men—
That yelling Euxine! throttled with her dead:
Yon quiv'ring air! as thick with ghosts as when
The sever'd souls of Syrian armies† fled!

Ah! fatal field, ah! doom'd and deadly Sea,
Where be the hosts of God, that ancient band?
Michael the Prince,‡ and Uriel, where are ye,
That once did valiantly for English Land?

Shun ye the flaunting Crescent's baleful sign,
The circumcisëd hordes of vile Mahound:
Or, is the Red Cross banner loath to shine
Where Scythian fiends beset the shuddering ground.

Lords of the vassal-air, the lightning tongue,
The harness'd Fires, with Footsteps like the Storm;
Where is your vaunt, and what your strength, among
Those Riders of the Cloud, with battle warm?

Sound the stern Signal! summon Sea and Shore,
Clothe many a steed with thunder for the war;
An Angel, standing at a cottage door,
To guard a peasant's child, is mightier far.

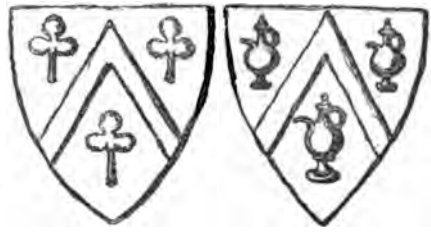
O for the Sigil! or the chanted spell
The Pentacle, that demons know and dread;
So should Maozzim flee with baffled yell,
And the lull'd Euxine smooth its billowy bed.

Arise, O Lord! stretch forth thy red right hand:
Smite the strong Dragon and his Scythian thrall;
God visible among the Nations stand,
And bid the recreant Russ thy banish'd Name§ recall.

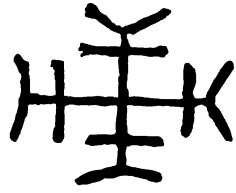
Morwenstow, Nov. 14, 1854. R. S. HAWKER.

* The Gods of the strong holds. Daniel, ch. xi., v. 38, 39.
† Kings, book II. chap. xix. v. 35.
‡ Daniel, ch. x. v. 21.
§ The phrase "Filioque—and the Son," is erased from the Nicæan Creed by the Greek Church, and the doctrine abjured.

BELL MARKS.—You would confer a favour on students in Campanology, a very increasing section by the bye, if you would allow the accompanying devices to embellish your papers. A notice of them has already appeared in another similar periodical, Notes and Queries, Vol. XI. p. 100. By giving these publicity, other bells similarly marked may be discovered by some of your readers. These are from a bell at Lansellos, in Cornwall, but I have seen the same at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and on bells at Oxford and in Wiltshire.



Between these coats and within an octagon indentation is the following device.—



The three Trefoils may be the private arms of the founder, or emblematical; they are not on the Newcastle bell. The Crosslet is the Christians' mark; and the Three Pots are the arms assumed by some fraternity of bellfounders.

In the Glossary of Heraldry, Lave Pot, or Ewer, is given as borne by the Founders' Company. The vessel is represented without a cover.

Rectory, Clyst St. George, Topsham, April 2. H. T. ELLACOMBE.

The article in Notes and Queries, referred to by our Correspondent, states—"The tower of Lansallos church contains the fragments of two bells scattered on the floor of the belfry; while a third, still hanging, barely serves to notify the hour of service to the inhabitants of the adjoining hamlet. There is nothing remarkable in the shape or size of the bell, but it bears the words in an old black letter character:

Sancta Margareta ora pro nobis,

and also three coats of arms, which I will attempt to describe.

"The first is a chevron between three fleurs-de-lys. The second is an octagonal shield, charged with a very curious crosslett. The third is a chevron between three remarkable looking vessels with spouts, more like the modern coffee-pots than any thing I know besides. The tinctures, if there were any, are obliterated.

"This bell, I have thought, may be coeval with the re-edification of the church, which was dedicated to St. Ildierna, or Hyldren, October 16, 1331."

The rubbings kindly forwarded by Mr. Ellacombe, show these coats to be sunk in the surface of the bell, and an examination of them induces the following remarks, which are respectfully submitted.

On the first coat, the three objects, supposed to represent fleurs-de-lys, or trefoils, would seem rather to be hawthorn trees, and are thus suggestive of the arms being those of Treffry of Treffry in Lanhidrock in Cornwall, and subsequently also of Place in Fowey—sab. a chevron between three hawthorn trees, arg. The elder branch of this family became extinct by the death of John Treffry in 1658.

The second coat appears to pertain to the family of Decling, in Devonshire—arg. a chevron between three ewers, sab. What connexion, if any between those families existed, is unknown to the writer.

The device impressed between these coats, and described by Mr. Couch and by Mr. Ellacombe as a crosslet, appears to have eluded their notice as being simply a double monogram of the founder's initials, H. K., these letters being affixed to the extremities or points of a plain cross +. Ed.

Legends on Bells.—On the first or leading bell in Wellcombe Church, in Devonshire, are the lines:

When I begin—let all strike in.

On a bell in North Tamerton Church, Cornwall, melted and recast about 1829—

Iesv fvlfil with thy good grace,
All that we beckon to this place.

Morwenstow, April 2. R. S. Hawker.

RUSSIAN PROFANENESS.

The common people of Russia, although not civilized, are nevertheless of a docile disposition, and when they disapprove of their superiors, convey their remonstrances not in the bold coarseness of the Englishman, or the malignant petulancy of the Frenchman, but in a manner, conceived by them, to tell with the most pointed effect. In one of their former wars with the Turks, Prince Gallitzin rendered himself very unpopular with his countrymen, who composed the following allegory, in which the highest compliment was intended to Count Munich, and the most pointed reproach to the Prince. The following is a literal translation.

The Almighty was enjoying himself in sleep—a great voice was heard in heaven, and the Almighty awoke. He called unto the angel Gabriel and said, "The Turks and the Russians are going to war. My beloved Russians, who commands them?" Gabriel replied, "Count Munich." Then the Almighty said, "I am satisfied;" he turned round and went to sleep. On a sudden a greater noise was heard in heaven, when God awoke and again called the angel Gabriel, and said, "What noise is that?" Gabriel then said, "the Russians and the Turks are at war." "Oh! my beloved Russians—who now leads them to battle?" "Prince Gallitzin." Then the Almighty said, "Give me my boots, for I must go myself."

The Midwatch.—The lines slightly misquoted by A. M. S. M., Current Notes, p. 20, are from "The Midwatch," one of the many excellent Songs by Richard Brinsley Sheridan, and was set to music by *William* Linley.

It may be found in the Book of English Songs, and in the best collections of the verses of our modern Songsters.

Bristol, March 26. J. K. R. W.

A. M. S. M. will find "The Midwatch," written by Sheridan, in the Universal Songster, vol. i. p. 42. It commences with the words he quotes. The work is in three volumes, and was published in 1825 by Jones and Co. Temple of the Muses, Finsbury Square.

Sandwich, March 27. W. H. Rolfe.

The song, "When 'tis night," was printed in the National Illustrated Library, April, 1851; and is there ascribed to R. B. Sheridan. In the same collection is also the song attributed to Richard Lovelace, containing the sentiment—

I would not love thee, dear, so much,
Loved I not honour more;

referred to in a previous number of Current Notes.

Framlingham, March 29. George Edwards.

From a sheet, I suppose the original publication, I have much pleasure in forwarding for your Correspondent A. M. S. M., a copy of the Sea Song, "When 'tis night." It is stated to have been composed by Mr. Linley, and sung by Mr. Bannister.

Haddington, April 7. John Ferme.

The Sea Song commencing with "When 'tis night," is to be found at p. 296, in Bohn's edition of the Songs of Charles Dibdin.

Oldbury, April 7. J. Lowe.

The Song of the Midwatch, though ascribed to R. B. Sheridan, is of very doubtful appropriation. Bannister sang it in the musical entertainment entitled, "the Glorious First of June," performed on July 2, for the benefit of the widows and orphans of those who fell in Earl Howe's naval Victories, in 1794. Cobb was the ostensible author of the piece, Sheridan lent some aid to the dialogue, while the Duke of Leeds, Lord Mulgrave, and some others, contributed Songs. Kelly, in his Reminiscences, vol. ii. p. 70, states, "Storace and myself gave it some new songs, but the music was chiefly old. It was all got up in three days." Adolphus asserts, the piece "was so hastily prepared, that a portion of it had been performed whilst another was not yet written."* The writer is aware, it is in Dr. Gauntlett's revised version, as published by Lonsdale, attributed to Sheridan, and the music to *Thomas* Linley; but Cobb most probably was the writer, not Dibdin. Ed.

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* Memoirs of John Bannister, vol. i. p. 343.

CHURCHYARDS.—In reference to the enquiry by SPES, Current Notes, p. 24, it may be observed, the North side is included in the same consecration with the rest of the ground; all within the boundary, and the boundary itself is alike hallowed in sacred and secular law. It is because of the doctrine of the Regions which has descended unbrokenly in the Church, that an evil repute rests in the northern parts. The East, from whence the Son of Man came, and who will come again from the Orient to judgment, was and is, His own especial realm. The dead lie with their feet and faces turned eastwardly, ready to stand up before the approaching Judge. The West was called the Galilee, the region of the people. The South, the Home of the Noonday, was the typical domain of Heavenly Things; but the North, the ill-omened North, was the peculiar haunt of evil spirits and the Dark Powers of the air. Satan's door stood in the north wall, opposite to the font, and was duly opened at the exorcism of Baptism for the egress of the Fiend. When our Lord lay in the sepulchre, it was with feet towards the East, so that his right hand gave benediction to the South, and his left hand reproached and repelled the North. When the evil spirits were cast out by the voice of the Messiah, they fled evermore northward. The God of the North was Baalzephon. They say that at the North Pole there stands the awful gate, which none may approach and live, and which leads to the central depths of penal fire.

Morwenstow. R. S. HAWKER.

POPE'S LAST HOURS.

DURING Pope's last illness, his two physicians, Dr. Barton and Dr. Thomson had an altercation. The former charged Dr. Thomson with having hastened the poet's death by the violent purges he had prescribed, a crimination which Dr. Barton retorted. Pope at length silenced them by saying,—"Gentlemen, I only learn by your discourse that I am in a very dangerous way, all therefore I have now to ask is, that after my death, the following may be added to the next edition of the Dunciad, by way of postscript—

> Dunces rejoice, forgive all censures past;
> The greatest dunce has kill'd your foe at last.

Others say these lines were written by Dr. Barton, and were the occasion of the following epigram by a friend of Dr. Thomson.—

> As physic and verse both to Phœbus belong,
> So the College oft dabble in potion and song:
> Hence Barton resolv'd his emetics shall hit,
> When his recipes fail gives a puke with his wit.

E. H.

THAMES.—Can any reader of Current Notes inform me where the following line occurs—

> And all the liquid world is one extended Thames.

I have seen it attributed to Cowley, but cannot find it in his works?

Birmingham. J. H. S.

CARDINAL Mai, it is rumoured, will be succeeded as Librarian at the Vatican, by Cardinal Wiseman.

EXETER 'CHANGE.—Can any reader of Current Notes state when or by whom Exeter 'Change in the Strand was erected? During a long absence from England, the building with which I was once so familiar has vanished, and nothing denotes where it stood.

U. S. C., April 3. G.

Hatton, in his New View of London, printed in 1707, p. 604, notices Exeter Exchange, so called from being situate in the place where Exeter House was. The ground was held of the Earl upon lease, and the Exchange was built thereon by Dr. Barbon, a very great builder; this I am told the Doctor mortgaged to the Duke of Devonshire and Sir Francis Child, who now receive the rents, and the said Earl has the ground rents. Here are about forty-eight shops below, let to milliners, and room for as many more above, where much is in the occupation of the Company of Upholsters.

Richard Blome, in his Collections for enlarging Stow's Survey, compiled before 1700, describing Exeter 'Change as it then appeared, observes—

"This Exchange contains two walks below stairs, and as many above, with shops on each side for sempsters, milliners, hosiers, etc., the builders judging it would come into good repute, but it received a check in its infancy, I suppose, by those of the New Exchange, so that instead of growing into better esteem, it became worse and worse; insomuch that the shops in the first walk next the street can hardly meet with tenants, those backwards lying useless, and those above converted into other uses."

Strype's edition, 1720, book IV. p. 119.

The upper room in the remembrance of many, had long been a popular Exhibition of Animals from all parts of the World, originally established by George Pidcock. The last occupant was the late Mr. Edward Cross, who died a few months since near to the Surrey Zoological Gardens.

On the demolishing of the 'Change in August, 1829, the date was over the principal window at the east end—EXETER 'CHANGE, 1676; its length was forty paces, and its site extended from the western wall of the Pit entrance to the Lyceum Theatre, to the middle of the road way in Burleigh Street, abutting on the south over two-thirds of the present roadway in the Strand.

HOYLE.—What are the arms of the family of Hoyle or Hoile, and whence does the name originate? Is it derived from the immense sand-bank at the mouth of the Mersey, off the coast of Cheshire, called Hoyle bank, and the hamlet close to it, called Hoylake? If so, where can I find any account of it?

Is there a place or family of that name in Brabant, or Flanders; if so, where is there any account of them extant?

Rotheram. UNUS GENTIS.

Guillim does not notice the coat. The arms of the Hoyle family as described by Edmondson, would seem to be of foreign origin. *ar.* Two Lions combatant *sa.* Crest, a Demi-Lion rampant *or*, holding between his paws a shield, the field *az.* charged with a Sun *or*.

No family of this name is noticed in Ormerod's History of Cheshire.

THE LATE MR. JAMES BROWN, OF BOSTON.

It is with no ordinary feelings of regret that we announce the death of Mr. James Brown, of the well-known publishing house of Little, Brown and Co. Boston, United States; which took place on March 10th, after a brief and painful illness, in his fifty-fifth year.

Few booksellers were better known on both sides of the Atlantic than Mr. Brown. His business both as a bookseller and publisher, was very extensive, and his purchases in this country were annually, for many years, at the rate of some thousands of pounds. Many valuable and expensive publications which would not otherwise have been ventured upon in this country were undertaken in consequence of his guaranteeing to purchase for the American market a considerable portion of the impression. Among other works, Mr. Murray's series of "British Classics," and Mr. Pickering's edition of Milton's Works, edited by Mitford, were published at his suggestion, and with his co-operation. The death of such a man will be severely felt, for he was not only energetic and intelligent in his business, but strictly upright and conscientious in all his transactions, and kind-hearted and courteous in his manners.

We cannot do better than quote the following tribute to his memory, written by a friend who had known him long and intimately.

"Mr. Brown was possessed of large natural abilities, and was eminently a self-made man. Like almost all of those who in America have arrived at any desirable distinction in any department of life, or exercised any considerable influence, he was born in humble circumstances, and by his own industry, perseverance, and enterprise, worked his way up to that high social position which he had attained at his death, and to that eminence which he occupied in the pursuit he had chosen, as its acknowledged head and most able representative in this country.

"Energy, firmness, and promptitude were among his most distinguishing characteristics, and these united with sterling good sense and a judgment that rarely erred, contributed largely to that success which continually marked his progress in life. In the finer quality of good taste he was not lacking, and the books issued by the house of which he was a member, bear ample testimony to the exercise of his nice discrimination in their production. He understood his business well, and was familiar with all its details; and this may be said of him not only in a mechanical, but in a much higher sense,—for he not only had a knowledge of the market value and fitness of the wares in which he dealt, but also an intellectual appreciation of their worth. He was well read in general literature, and the scholars of America, and those who endeavour to encourage and promote a taste for healthy reading, are greatly indebted to him for the publication and wide distribution of numberless works of real excellence; in which manner he has done a service to our literature and education which it would not be easy to estimate."

Shortly after his death a large meeting of the book trade of Boston was held, at which resolutions were passed expressive of their regret, and of their wish to attend his funeral. They also determined to close their places of business on the day of his obsequies.

PAPAL SOVEREIGNTY OVER ENGLAND.

The Earl of Desmond, in the time of King Henry the Eighth, made an offer of Ireland to the French king, and Archbishop Usher attests the instrument remained as a record in the Courts of Paris.

Subsequently the Pope transferred the titles of all our kingdoms to the Emperor Charles the Fifth, who by a new grant in the time of Queen Elizabeth, transferred them to his son Philip the Second, with a resolution to settle the crown upon the Spanish Infanta.

SHROPSHIRE EPITAPHS.

On a headstone in the church-yard at High Ercal, is the following encomium on the dead :—

Elizabeth the wife of Richard Barklamb
passed into Eternity on Sunday 21 may 1797
in the 71 year of her age.
Richard Barklamb
the antespous uxorious was interred here
27 Jan 1806 in his 84 year.
William Barklamb
Brother to the preceding Sep 25 1779 aged 58 years.

When terrestrial all in Chaos shall exhibit effervescence
Then Celestial virtu's in their most Refulgent Brilliant Essence,
Shall with beaming Beauteous Radiance thro' the Ebullition shine,
Transcending to glorious regions, Beatifical Sublime;
Human power, absorbed, deficient, to delineate such effulgent lasting sparks,
Where honest plebeians Ever, will have presidence over ambiguous great monarchs.

Ante spous uxorious doubtless implies, "formerly the loving husband." I consider these lines as the best specimen of pompously unmeaning words, I have yet seen.

On a headstone at Ludlow—

Sacred to the Memory
of
* * * * * *
who for forty years drove the stage waggon between this Town and London.
A good Servant,
A careful driver,
And an honest man.

His journey o'er, no more to town,
His onward course he bends,
His team unshut, his whip laid up,
And he his journey ends.
Death lock'd the wheel, and gave him rest,
And never more to move
Till Christ shall call him with the blest
To heavenly realms above.

The name and dates were inadvertently not taken when copying the inscription. To unshut the team is to detach the horses from the waggon.

Salopiensis.

Errata.—P. 22, col. 2, line 14 from bottom, for nurc*k*, read never *k*. Line 6 from bottom, for Szcerbiec, read Szczerbiec.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LIII.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [MAY, 1855.

RUSSIAN EASTER CEREMONIES IN ENGLAND.

We have had great doings during Passion Week and Easter among the prisoners. I suppose it has seldom occurred to any one to be so completely in the midst of so many religious sects, at their greatest fast or festival of the whole year, not excepting Christmas. The Jews for the last ten days, have been supplied entirely from the wealthy Jews in Plymouth, with every thing to eat, drink, or use; keeping strictly to the letter of the Levitical law. They even went the length of foregoing their tobacco, soap and vinegar, which happened to be served out twice during the time, because they would not take anything previously touched by Gentile hands; and they have only to-day commenced again taking the prison fare. The whole of the prisoners abstained from meat from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday, and the Russian priest, through the Governor, supplied them with what they wanted, by order of the Emperor. There were, independently of what each man bought for himself, upwards of two thousand eggs, boiled hard in logwood to colour them red; eighteen hundred crossed buns varying in size from a penny to sixpence; two shillings, and two shillings and sixpence; and twenty-five pounds of butter for Easter day.

It is their custom to paint eggs with curious devices representing our Saviour rising from the grave, ascending into heaven, the Virgin's heart pierced by the sword, the Holy Ghost, etc., and on Easter-day and some days afterwards, they give you the salutation, "Jesus Christ is risen," accompanied by a kiss, and a present of an egg. These eggs as before stated, are all boiled hard, and some of the cadets paint them most beautifully, others gild them with gold leaf. In Russia, they begin their mass at one o'clock, and remain there till eight or nine; but as it was thought the warders would require some sleep, it was arranged with the priest that the service should begin at five in the morning; accordingly at five we went to their church in the upper prison, and saw their rites performed. On Good Friday they buried our Saviour, that is, a large picture representing his death was borne out by four of the officers, by one door through the court, and with chanting brought in again at the opposite door.

Prayers having continued about half an hour, each of the congregation bearing a lighted taper, the light of which it appeared to be their great object to maintain, the priest made a sign, on which the choristers and principal members followed him out of the room, followed by the oldest officer, upon whom the priest placed an embroidered cloth across his breast, and then laid on it the sacred book, which as it has all the pictures which they worship framed in the binding, he must hold with the cloth, not touching it with his hands. We did not follow them, but heard them singing in various places, and in about ten minutes they re-entered at the further end of the ward, the congregation dividing for the procession to pass through. I imagine this was to represent searching for our Saviour, when he had risen from the tomb. The priest several times during the service, turned to them, and said that Christ was risen, when they each time answered him with one voice. At last the great ceremony commenced, viz., the cross which the priest first kissed, and then presented it to each member of the congregation, who kissed it, and then kissed the priest on both cheeks, he at the same time kissing them on the other cheek. This lasted a considerable time, as may be supposed by there being five hundred or more persons, every one undergoing the same ceremony, and when they had finished kissing the priest, they began kissing each other; the officers and their wives went down the room, right and left, kissing the soldiers.

We did not leave the church until eight o'clock, and as they neither kneel or sit, but stand the whole time, we found it very fatiguing. After the priest had blessed the hot cross buns and hard boiled eggs, and sprinkled them with holy water, we left them to break their fast, and enjoy their feast.

The next day we went to the Polish ward, to see the prisoners' dancing. They dance and waltz most gracefully, nor would you see in an English ball room better waltzing than I have seen here amongst the common men, who dance with each other, one of themselves playing the violin and tamborine. The Countess of Morley visited the cadets on Tuesday, when they all advanced in a body and sang, each afterwards presenting her with a painted egg; they then retired, and again commenced singing, and to a lady who attended the Countess, they each presented an egg; and to a third lady performed the same ceremony, each also presenting her with an egg.

They certainly have very peculiar customs, yet amuse themselves most rationally. One of our Poles obtained his release about six weeks agone, since then they have all been placed by themselves in the lower prison, where the governor and interpreter have had many consultations with them. To-day the little Pole, having been to France, has re-appeared, so we expect every day some movement to take place, such as losing them. All are willing to go, except a few, whose wives are in Russia, and who fear they would never see them again.

Mill-bay War Prison, April 11.* H. C.

* Delayed too late for April number.

BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY OF ENGLAND.

There are few books in our language more interesting or illustrative than Granger's Biographical History to the period of the Revolution, in 1688; and we have a Continuation by the Rev. Mark Noble, to the end of the reign of King George the First.

Is it not high time the series should be continued to the beginning of the present reign? There is no lack of literary men well calculated for such a work, and the materials would be most abundant.

In the present state of the Arts, and the improved facilities of graphic embellishments, etchings in outline or wood engravings might accompany almost every page, and it is easy to conceive that under the auspices of some spirited and wealthy publishers, a most desirable and delightful work might be issued to the public.

The admirable condensation of anecdote and matter, with the lively and terse style so conspicuous in Granger, should be the model. Noble might be compressed into smaller compass, and yet the number of lives increased, and by a judicious arrangement, the whole might be brought within six octavo volumes.

Stradbrooke, May 11. J. T. A.

COINAGE OF EDWARD I. AND II.

It has often occurred to me to propose that a complete list, so far as your contributors would or could make it so, should be published of all the varieties of pennies of Edward the First and Second. I know of no printed Catalogue which purports to give the gleanings of even a few Cabinets, and yet, from those of many of your readers, there might be brought to light possibly some nearly unique coins of those kings. My proposal is to reprint in the Notes, if it be allowable, the list of coins found at Tutbury, in Staffordshire, published by the Society of Antiquaries many years since, and to make this the basis of operations. Any coins of these monarchs differing in the slightest particular from those which your readers possess, may be from time to time recorded in your Current Notes, and in a short time a tolerably complete list would be the result.

Should this proposal meet with your approbation, perhaps you would notice it in your next Current Notes, and next month I will send you particulars of a few coins in my possession, which differ from the Tutbury list.

Nottingham, May 10. F. R. N. Haswell.

*** Willis's Current Notes are open for all such communications thus kindly proffered by our correspondent, but as regards the reprinting of Mr. Hawkins's list, printed in the Archæologia, in 1832, courtesy would require that permission for that purpose should be asked. That list was materially increased by the discovery of another great mass of coins of these monarchs in February, 1836, at Wyke, near Leeds, in Yorkshire, of which full particulars were printed in the Archæologia, in 1839. This sequel to Mr. Hawkins's account of the Tutbury Coins has possibly escaped Mr. Haswell's notice.—Ed.

EARLY ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS.

In Current Notes, 1854, p. 74, reference is made to the first papers of news which, according to Chalmers, were produced at Venice, in 1536, and were long after circulated in manuscript, as appears from a collection of these gazettes in the Magliabechian library at Florence. In England, there were evidently printed "Newes bookes" of a contemporary date, as at the close of 1544 king Henry the Eighth issued a proclamation for calling in and prohibiting of "certain bookes printed of newes of the prosperous successes of the Kings Ma'ties arms in Scotland," directing the same to be brought in and burned within twenty-four hours after proclamation made, on pain of imprisonment. This carries back the issue of English newspapers to a much earlier date than is generally supposed.

The proclamation states, "the kings most excellent Majestie understanding that certain *light* persones, not regarding what they reported, wrote or sett forthe, had caused to be imprinted and divulged certaine newes of the prosperous successes of the Kings Majestie's army in Scotland, whereas, although the effect of the victory was indeed true, yet the circumstances in divers points were in some past over slenderly, in some parte untruly and amisse reported; his Highness, therefore, not content to have anie such matters of so greate importance sett forth to the *slaunder of his captaines and ministers*, not to be otherwise reported than the truth was, straightlie chargeth and commandeth all manner of persones into whose handes any of the said printed books should come, ymediately after they should hear of this Proclamation, to bring the same bookes to the lord maior of London, or to the Recorder, or some of the aldermen of the same, to thintent they might suppresse and burn them, upon pain that every person keeping any of the said bookes twenty-four hours after the making of this Proclamation should suffer ymprisonment of his bodye, and be further punished at the Kings Majestie's will and pleasure."

The earliest printed Venetian Gazette, in the British Museum, was printed in 1570, and is descriptive of the far-famed naval conflict off Lepanto.

F. P.

SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.

To the Editor of Willis's Current Notes.

In your February number, you stated with reference to the above, that you were enabled to state on good authority, that the affairs of the Shakespeare Society would be publicly wound up at the usual Anniversary Meeting, on the 27th of April last, when the audited Accounts would be laid before the Members, and the final Report of the Council be read. As a member of the Society I recently addressed you on the subject of its position before the public; my letter, was, however, not printed, but the paragraph was inserted by way of palliative; still the Council have not kept faith with the

promise made through your columns. I have to beg that my original letter may now be inserted.

May 4.

The letter of January 30 is now printed in deference to the request of the writer.

I AM glad that your attention has been directed to the (late) Shakespeare Society; I say *late*, I presume, not unadvisedly, for I have your sanction that it ceased at the close of 1853, although as a Subscriber for some years, and Auditor during two several years, I have as yet received no official announcement of the termination of its existence. It is true, having received no volume since that issued in 1853, viz., Lodge's Defence of Poetry, Music, and Stage Plays, I began to suspect something untoward had befallen the Society, but as I have not since then been applied to for any subscription, I could perhaps have palliated the disappointment occasioned by the consequent indefinite postponement of Mr. Collier's promised concluding volume of Extracts from the Registers of the Stationers' Company, and Mr. Peter Cunningham's long expected Selection from Oldys' Manuscript Notes to Langbaine's Dramatic Poets, had not I found at every bookstall, the Shakespeare Society publications offered for as many shillings as perhaps in the capacity of "One of the Shakespeare Society" I had paid pounds. This, I presume, results from the stock of the Society's publications having been sold off in March, 1854, as stated by you; without the sanction or even knowledge of the Members of the Society, I think I may fairly add. I must say I do not think the Council or the Treasurer acquit themselves with the Members of the Society on the score of either candour or even courtesy, without presenting a final Report and balance sheet. This hint may perhaps induce its preparation.

Finally, I am entirely surprised at your statement that Mr. Skeffington purchased the remaining impressions of the engraving by Mr. Cousins from the Ellesmere Chandos portrait of Shakespeare. I had always been given to understand that enough copies had been worked off merely to supply the Members of the Shakespeare Society; and that the plate was subsequently defaced I am well aware, as I have in my possession an impression from the defaced plate; if, however, an unlimited number of impressions from the fair plate were, contrary to guarantee, privately taken off, any value I might have assigned to my fair copy of the plate from its supposed rarity is at once removed.

Hoping yet to hear from head-quarters something more definite respecting the Society, I am,

A MEMBER OF THE (late) SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.

January 30, 1855.

FINKLE STREET.—In many cities and towns near to old religious houses, are streets of this name. What is its derivation?

Whitehaven, May 15. JOHN DIXON.

In Halliwell's Dictionary of Archaic and Provincial Words is noticed—"FINKEL. Fennel. *North.* Fynkylside, *feniculum.*" Nominale Manuscript.

JEWISH FESTIVAL AT JERUSALEM.

DOUBTLESS some of your correspondents will be able to inform me which of the great feasts it was Jesus is related to have been at, at Jerusalem, John vii. 37. If it was the Feast of Tabernacles, I presume in a design for a picture, the apartment should be represented decorated with palm trees and green boughs, or would it be held in the open air? PICTOR.

At the time of this verse the Lord Messiah stood in the cloister of Israel, which was the second court of the Temple. A colonnade of stately pillars surrounding an open quadrangle. It was the octave of the Festival of Tents, which was held in Tisri, or September, after harvest, and it began on the fifteenth day. There then stood Jesu, around him the twelve men, the bearded Bishops of his future church. The columns and the court were wreathed with bowers of green branches, from the patient palm tree with its turbaned brow, and the willows of the water-courses, which in those days grew upright, but which after their rods had been taken to scourge the Lord withal, drooped evermore in memorial grief, the citron bough, heavy with fruit, and the myrtle tree. All at once there was the shout of the trumpet, and a loud and lifted Psalm; it is that Ode which is now read as the twelfth chapter of the book of Isaiah. The Levites drew near, and a procession enters in solemn array. They have drawn water from the brook of Siloam, which flows fast by the Oracle of God. A priest bears it in a golden vase, and they pass on to pour it as their usage was on the altar of the holocaust. πρωτον μεν ὑδωρ, *i.e.* water was first. They have passed through the cloister of the men, and as their voices fade into the inner sanctuary, a deep and solemn tone proclaims in thrilling words—"If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink!"

Were I a painter, I should pourtray the scene, at the right foreground Messiah with the traditionary features of Nicephorus;* behind him, Simon, Andrew, James and John. A pillar here and there enwreathed; Hebrew children bearing boughs. A willow drooping nigh with prophetic leaves. On the left the Levite troop disappearing with the golden pitcher in their hands. The finger of the Lord pointing towards them, as in the act of uttering the above summons.

Morwenstow, May 17. R. S. HAWKER.

BAYLE'S Dictionary is more interesting as a depository of opinions, than for its facts, though even in this last respect it is doubtless of great value.

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* Great controversy exists about Præ and Post-Raphaelitism, and great ignorance. The truth is this, until Raphael grew corrupt he painted from legend. Every feature, every look was and is well known in the delivery of the church, as the names of Jesus, or St. John. To desecrate from this traditionary type was to sin. Nevertheless, in later life Raphael and his school painted Christs from models chosen in Italian streets, and such guilty words came in as "Titian's Christ," etc. Moreover, the early painters depicted the second body of the saint, the glorified or etherealized frame of the arisen dead. They shewed their theme not gross or thick with Adam's flesh or blood of Eve, but such as the dead will be who arise in the perfect stature of Christ. That which men call thin, or angular, or monotonous, or gaunt, was the second body of the Resurrection. R. S. H.

On the wall facing the belfry of Maidstone Church, are some lines, part of the memento there raised as an epitaphial admonition—

Stop! Ringers all, and cast an eye;
You in your glory, so once was I.
What I have been, as you may see
Which now is in the Belfree.

An absurd rendering of the customary exhortation—

As you are, so were we:
As we be, so shall ye.

Something like this is found in the monkish rhymes indited as an epitaph on the detested Richard de Marisco, Bishop of Durham, who died at the monastery of Peterborough, on his way to London, in 1226. The line

Quod sum vos eritis,

presents possibly the earliest known use of the phrase.

W. H. L.

LANSALLOS BELL MARKS.

Whilst I, for one, acknowledge the service you have done to Campanology, by inserting the curious devices on the Lansallos bell, in Current Notes, page 29, I would respectfully offer an observation or two on the remarks appended to the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe's note. When writing the description of the bell, I held the opinion which you advocate, that the arms were those of local landowners, donors of the bell, though after a diligent search among the families who have held possession of the manors in the parish, I failed to identify them. The discussion which my queries occasioned has, however, changed that opinion, and I think Mr. Ellacombe has clearly made out that the names are not those of local gentry, but the devices of a fraternity of bell founders; in proof of which, he remarks, the pots as represented with covers, handles and spouts, are not heraldic ewers, and their occurrence "through such a breadth of country from Northumberland to Cornwall," is conclusive against their being local.*

In the case of the bell at Compton Basset, Wilts, the identical shields and crosslet occur in the same order as on the Lansallos bell, and so similar were the rubbings from all these bells on which the pot arms are found, that it is not improbable they all issued from the same foundry.

I have great pleasure in forwarding to you rubbings taken this afternoon from the bell at Lansallos, and having generally found that rubbings from figures in relief are unsatisfactory, I made at the same time a truthful sketch of the two shields, which reveals a peculiarity in the pots not hitherto remarked, namely, a slight bar connecting the spout and neck. The handles, I find, are joined both above and below to the neck and body of the ewers.

I think you will see that the trefoils,† or, as I call them, fleurs-de-lys, are a little different from your woodcut. The rubbing well represents them; they will hardly pass for hawthorns; nor can I discover that the families of Treffry and Decling had ever any connection with the parish. I add a tracing which will give you a correct representation of the crosslet, and its octagonal border, which I think should have been represented. The letters H. K., which you have detected, and which I cannot help fancying to be an accidental resemblance, are as plainly seen in this as in the sketch you have given.

We may hope to hear more respecting the character of these remarkably shaped vessels, and I expect some of your readers will be able to furnish other instances of the occurrence of these arms.

Polperro, Cornwall. Thomas Q. Couch.

* Notes and Queries, vol. xi. p. 293.

† The Editor thankfully acknowledges Mr. Couch's communication, and freely admits the devices are clearly slipped trefoils, and not hawthorns, as at first supposed.

Paper.—A new material is stated to have been discovered in Australia, in the coating of the roots of the native palm, or wild pine apple, *Zamia Spiralis*. It is said to resemble cotton-wool, but is short in staple.

OVER-DOOR INSCRIPTIONS.

Most of the readers of your "Current Notes" may have observed a notice in the newspapers to the effect that Lord Brougham had inscribed the following motto over the principal entrance to his country-house at Cannes, in the south of France:

Inveni portam, spes et fortuna valete,
Me sat ludistis, ludite alios.

This inscription may be the invention of the versatile Baron,* but it is also one which a late occupant of the Chair of Humanity in the University of St. Andrews inscribed upon the lintel of the garden entrance to the Manse of Cults, Fifeshire, which he inhabited as a parish minister previous to his appointment as Professor. I had occasion to call upon his successor, the Rev. James Anderton, who took a pride in pointing it out, and stating that he had caused it to be lately re-engraved *in rei memoriam*. He besides informed me that he had ascertained that it was not original, but borrowed from a French author; he had, however, never been able to discover the work in which it appeared. Probably some of the erudite readers of "Current Notes" may be able to cast some light on the matter by their investigations, and to them I look for assistance.

Strathmiglo, Fife. David Galloway.

* In one of the Gentleman's Magazines, before the birth of Lord Brougham, there is the following translation of this legend:—

My bark, of waves and winds the sport,
Escap'd the ocean's strife,
Has made at last its destined port,
And anchors now for life.

Adieu Hope's visionary scene,
Blind Fortune's veering fate;
Too long your bubble I have been,
Seek others now to cheat!

Ed.

THE LATE J. M. W. TURNER, R.A.

In March last, Mr. Ruskin referring to the sketch of Mr. Turner, so well represented in your woodcut in January, 1852, wishes to have any further reminiscences which I may be able to communicate respecting him. I regret that my treacherous memory does not retain any traces of this distinguished artist, beyond the simple notice that accompanied my rude sketch of his person.

The following anecdote trifling as it may at first sight appear, may possibly not be altogether undeserving Mr. Ruskin's attention, as bearing upon the *modus operandi* occasionally resorted to by our late eminent painter, and which may furnish "a hint worth knowing" to those who may be anxious to tread in his path, and to give to their productions every possible advantage and effect.

The circumstance was related to me by a gentleman who resided in the house immediately adjoining that of Mr. Turner, one of the windows of which presented a full view of the back yard of the artist's premises. This gentleman informed me, he was occasionally much amused at the earnestness with which the little man was for a considerable time busily engaged in pumping upon some of his paintings, and was unable to imagine what particular result was intended to be produced by these persevering exertions of the artist, but I have little doubt that Mr. Ruskin will be able to estimate the true effect of this application of the "Cold Water Cure" to Mr. Turner's paintings.

At all events, it seems desirable that a good pump should be henceforth considered a required adjunct to every artist's studio.

Stradbrooke, May 11. J. T. A.

Froissart.—A statue commemorative of this celebrated historian, is about to be raised at Valenciennes.

MILTON'S MOCK FUNERAL.

Examining recently some papers, I found the following "Anecdote of Milton, not generally known."

The freedom and asperity of his various attacks on the character and prerogative of Charles I. rendered him peculiarly obnoxious when the Restoration was accomplished. To save himself, therefore, from the fury of a court which he had so highly incensed, and the vigilance of which, from the emissaries employed, it was become so difficult to elude, he connived with his friends in effecting the following innocent imposture. The report of his death was industriously circulated, and the credulity of the people swallowed the bait prepared for them. The coffin, the mourners, and other apparatus of his burial, were exhibited at his house, with the same formality as if he had been really dead. A figure of him, as large and as heavy as the life, was actually formed, laid out, and put in a lead coffin, and the whole funeral solemnly acted in all its parts. It is said, when the truth was known, and he was found to be alive, notwithstanding the most incontestable evidence that he had been thus openly interred, the wits about the court of King Charles II. made themselves exceedingly merry with the stratagem by which the poet had preserved his life. The lively and good-natured monarch discovered too, himself, not a little satisfaction, on finding, that, by this ingenious expedient, his reign had not been tarnished with the blood of a man already blind by application, infirmity, and age, and who, under all his dreadful misfortunes, had written Paradise Lost.*

Here there are no details to substantiate a fact, that in itself is not devoid of interest. Archdeacon Todd observes, Milton at the Restoration, withdrew from the garden-house in Petty-France, Westminster, which opened into St. James's Park, and in which he had resided as Latin Secretary, from 1652; to a friend's house in Bartholomew Close. By this precaution he probably escaped the particular prosecution, that was at first directed against him. He adds, Tyers from good authority had told Warton, that when Milton was with Goodwin under prosecution, his friends to gain time, made a mock funeral for him; and that when matters were settled in his favour, and the affair was known, the king laughed heartily at the trick.† Tyers' authority was doubtless Cunningham, who says that Milton pretended to be dead, and had a public funeral procession; and that the king applauded his policy in escaping the punishment of death, by a seasonable show of dying.‡ The Journals of the House of Commons show that on June 16, 1660, it was resolved, that his Majesty should be humbly moved to call in Milton's Eiconoclastes, and his Defensio pro Populo Anglicani; as also Goodwin's Obstructors of Justice, and order them to be burned by the common hangman. The proclamation for apprehending Milton and Goodwin, intimate that they were so far fled, or so obscured themselves, that no endeavours used for their apprehension had taken effect, whereby they might be brought to legal trial, and deservedly receive condign punishment for their treasons and offences. On August 27, several copies of these proscribed books were burned by the hangman, but the Act of Indemnity passed within three days after, and Milton was unconditionally relieved from the necessity of further concealment. The supposititious funeral of the Author of Paradise Lost, must therefore have taken place between June 16, and August 30, 1660; can any reader of Current Notes, produce any coeval notices in illustration of the fact of Milton's Mock Funeral?

U. U. C. May 7. M.

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* Milton was certainly blind in 1653, if not before, but Paradise Lost was not written in 1660. Aubrey says Milton began the work about two years before the Restoration in May 1660. All that we know with any certainty is that the Manuscript was finished and placed in Ellwood's hands for perusal, at Chalfont, during the time of the sickness, in 1665; and that Milton sold the copyright to Samuel Simmons, on April 27, 1667, for an immediate payment of five pounds.

† Milton's Minor Poems, edited by Warton, 1791, 8vo. p. 358.

‡ History of Great Britain, translated by William Thomson, 1787, 4to. vol. i. p. 14.

BURNEY'S HANDEL COMMEMORATION.

Dr. BURNEY's Account of the Musical Performances in Westminster Abbey, in Commemoration of Handel, in 1784, was published in quarto, in the following year, in aid of the Musical Fund. Some years after, he promised his friend, the Rev. Dr. Du Val, a copy of the book, but either from not having one at hand, or unwilling to part with his own, on LARGE THICK PAPER, the promise appears to have escaped his recollection. Circumstances however brought it again to mind, and the author's copy is now before the writer, with the following lines:—

TO THE REV. DR. DU VAL,
ON THE TREACHERY OF MEMORY.

O Memory! ever trait'ress to old Age,
When neither truth nor zeal thy aid engage—
Now for the produce of my worn out brains
Nor glue, nor paste, nor peg, nor hook remains:
Although in Youth each trivial thought and thing,
With fond tenacity were wont to cling.

Is it alone when birch attention wakes,
That Mem'ry true and faithful record makes?
And at the nether end Ideas *get in*
When *out* the blood begins to spin?
If so, it proves to giddy, thoughtless youth,
The hopeful and exhilarating truth,
That second Childhood like the first should feel,
The rod's inspiring pow'r from head to heel.

March 12, 1801. CHARLES BURNEY.

Dr. Burney having promised me this book, some time elapsed before we met. On my avoiding him, that he might not imagine I mean'd to press his promise; he recollected it, and the next day sent it to me, with the above lines.

PH. DU VAL.

Charles Burney, M.D., born at Shrewsbury, in 1726; long occupied the house in St. Martin's-street, Leicester-square, formerly the residence of Sir Isaac Newton. On being appointed Organist of Chelsea College, he removed thither, and died there in May, 1814.

B.

CLEVER.—Besides the provincial uses to which this word is applied, as noticed in Current Notes, p. 23, in some parts of the north of Ireland it is used in reference to persons, or acts of great kindness, benevolence, or philanthropy; particularly in such cases as when there has been a large pecuniary disbursement. For instance if an individual has contributed a sum greater than what might have been expected from him, or disproportionate to his supposed means, he is thereby called "a Clever fellow;" and the act is designated as "a Clever act." This is a very common application of the word in different parts of Ulster; at least I have so heard it made use of unsparingly in many parts of the counties of Down and Londonderry, and, occasionally in Monaghan and Tyrone. J. A. P.

MALESPINI NOVELLE.

THE following notes are memoranda by the late ROGER WILBRAHAM on the fly-leaves of a copy of the Ducento Novelle, printed at Venice, in 1609, and were made by him on a perusal of that work.

The title of the fifty-fifth novel, of the first part is entitled, Viaggio ridicoloso di un Segretario, che andò con suo amico a Liuorno. In this novel the name of the secretary appears to have been Malespini, and was most probably the author himself.

A singular picture of manners at Bologna is presented in the third novel, part 1. In Carnival time, all the scholars went armed with swords, and even those who were in no way dressed or prepared for a ball carried daggers with them. The ball is described as being in the house of a courtesan, where young women of character and fashion were present, and through the whole novel, the spirit of revenge in privately murdering those from whom an injury was supposed to have been received is mentioned as a custom commonly in practice and highly meritorious.

The custom of carrying a knife in a sheath which formed part of the scabbard of the sword, is mentioned in the seventeenth novel, p. 51, però io vi priego, che voi mi prestiate il vostro coltello, c'hauete nella spada; and again in the thirteenth novel, part II. p. 95, in tergo—raccolto ch'ella hebbe un sodero di spada di quei mariuoli, e cano il coltello che ni un dentro.

In the thirteenth novel, part I., are two decisions of 'Il General Zalebotto' in France, one of which is against a soldier who had stolen il Tabernacolo in una chiesa. This is possibly allusive to the soldier who stole the Pix, as related by Hall and Holinshed, which theft Shakespeare has affixed upon Pistol. Talbot's sentence in Malespini is infinitely milder than that of K. Henry V., who orders the soldier to be strangled, whereas Talbot only obliges the soldier to take a solemn oath that he will never in the course of his life again enter a church.

First Part, p. 234 in tergo—uscirono fuori dal Castello per giuocare al palla maglio.

In the seventy-eighth novel, of the second part, is a curious account of an English bloodhound, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

The story of an attorney in London and his clerk, related in the fifth novel, part the first, is evidently the ground plot of Wycherley's Horner in his Country Wife.

WAY-SIDE CROSSES.—By the way-side, near to Whitehaven, stands a stone cross, about three feet high, and from the name of the place, "Cross-Lacon," and from many other places in the neighbourhood being called "Cross ——," I suppose such erections were numerous; tradition saith that the attendants of funerals were accustomed to stop for rest and devotion.

Can any information be afforded as to the origin of the services used at way-side crosses, and whether many are now standing?

Whitehaven, May 15. JOHN DIXON.

REFLECTIVE MOMENTS.

THOUGHT oft obtrudes, each tott'ring form
Seen ling'ring on in life's decline;
Had once a heart as fond, as warm,
As full of idle thoughts as mine!
That each hath had its dream of joy,
Its own unequall'd pure romance;
Commencing when the blushing boy
First thrills at lovely woman's glance.

That each could tell his tale of love,
And think the scenes described evince
More passion, and more guileless truth
Than hath been told before or since.
That they could tell of tender lays
At midnight penn'd in classic shades;
Of days more bright than modern days,
And maids more fair than modern maids.

Of whispers breath'd in list'ning ear;
Of kisses bland on blushing cheek—
Each kiss, each whisper, far too dear
For modern lips to give or speak.
Of promised hopes untimely cross'd,
Of friendships slighted or betray'd;
Of kindred spirits early lost,
Like buds that blossom'd but to fade.

Of beaming eyes, and tresses gay;
Of face divine and noble brow,
And forms which have all pass'd away,
And left them what we see them now!
Then is it thus—is human love
So very light, so frail a thing,
That all youth's brightest visions move
Unheeded on Time's restless wing?

Must all the eyes which still are bright,
And all the lips that talk of bliss,
All that which now seems fair to sight,
Hereafter only come to this?
What then are all these pleasures worth,
If we ere long must lose them thus?
If all we value most on earth,
Flit like shadows from among us?

ANGELO'S REMINISCENCES AND PIC NIC.

THE following letter addressed to the late well known 'Paul Pry,' Thomas Hill, will doubtless interest many readers of Current Notes, as a species of solicitation to which even persons of some notoriety are frequently impelled to obtain a favourable reception for their literary emanations. Angelo's Reminiscences contain many amusing and interesting traits, while his Pic Nic, presented an *olla podrida* all the worse from having so many cooks busied in its preparation.

JOHN BOND.

Hastings, February 1, 1822.

DEAR SIR,—I should not have presumed to trouble you with this scrawl, but having the pleasure of being known to you so many years, and that cordiality you have ever conferred on me. Permit me to request, after the flattering notice you took of the Septuagenarian at St. Leonard's, to mention my name again towards promoting my intended publication.

As the many "Reminiscences," since Kelly's have become quite a *drogue*, mine included, though still I am writing on the remainder of my recollections of characters, and the various scenes I have experienced these last fifty years and above, yet the same title may disgust the many who have already had patience to read my two lengthened volumes, that I could almost fancy I hear them say, "What! more of Angelo's Reminiscences, pooh! I have had quite enough of them."

Now as there is so much humbug and puffing that has great weight, and as "variety is charming," I mean to give this second attempt of my *goosequill*, a new appellation—"Angelo's Pic Nic;" and having been as a professional man so well known, my name may still excite notice to induce the sale, and by way of a book-trap, a pleasing snare, I have already procured some of the first literary authors of the present day, who have contributed their pen towards my undertaking, Colman, Horace Smith, etc. etc. Theodore Hook, Bulwer, and several others whose promises I shall remind, at my return to town. Already, I have in addition to my scraps, nearly three hundred; about seventy Anecdotes, Poetry and Fragments; some from my acquaintance, though not authors, yet, clever at telling their stories. Any effusions of yours, as a man of the world, I can only say in duty bound, you will much oblige.—Such additional *Plats recherche* must be a zest to any Pic Nic, whilst mine are the mere *Entremets*, side dishes, potatos, etc. etc. etc.

Now, my dear Sir, my motive for making this request is, knowing your general acquaintance and influence with the press, and men of letters, at this moment you could be of infinite service to me, fearful as I am, some one may anticipate my Title—"Pic Nic" for themselves. Permit me, therefore, to request, as my intended work is speedily forthcoming, Such a Bouquet, the first Literary Characters (no names mentioned at present) they must be a zest to the Book Epicure—something like this which is merely the *matter* that *runs* from my numskull; leaving it to your superior judgment what to write. Should it meet with your approbation, and as the paper may not be at the Library here, your sending it to me directed "Post Office," will oblige. When in town, I hope to thank you for your kindness to the Septuagenarian. "Oh! the days when I was young," alas! the curtain's dropt, yet hath my night of life some memory. May I ever remember your kindness to

Your obliged and old acquaintance,

A Angelo.

P.S. Should you see Mr. Colburn, pray mention to him, I shall first depend on his approval of my "Pic Nic," previous to my future intentions.

LEGAL BREVITY IN THE OLDEN TIME.

LEGAL documents were formerly a simple narration of contract and fact, of which the following old Scottish Tack, or Lease, proffers a good illustration. The original is still in the possession of a descendant of the John and James Low herein mentioned.

J david Lyndesay of Edzell Binds and oblidges me my airs exrs and successors q'thomeuer that John Low and James Low in mickl Tullo shall peacablie possess and Bruick ther possession then for the space of five years nixt to com they alvayes paying ther yearlie duties oyers as formerlie used and wontd in witt wherof J have subscrived this my obligatione at Edzell the sixt day of Junn jm. vic. nyntie six years. D. Lyndesay.

Notta that within ther taks jtt on of them are to pay a wedder sheep.

This lease is in the handwriting of the penultimate Lindsey of Edzell. The extensive lordship of Glenesk, of which Edzell forms a part, became part of the possessions of the ancient family of Lindsay, by the marriage of Catherine Stirling, co-heiress of Sir John Stirling, to Sir Alexander, third son of Sir David Lindsey of Crawford, in or about 1357. The Lindseys held these lands till 1715, when James, fourth Earl of Panmure, purchased them from David Lindsey, the only son of the grantor of the above lease, for 192,502 pounds Scots, or in sterling money 16,042*l.* Soon after this purchase, through Panmure aiding the Chevalier de St. George, these lands were forfeited, but were repurchased by his nephew William, ultimately the fifth Earl of Panmure, in 1764, for 11,951*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* sterling, and now constitute a part of the extensive possessions of Lord Panmure, now Minister of War, whose united properties in Forfarshire are calculated to exceed one hundred thousand acres.

Brechin, May 15. A. J.

THE magnificent State Coach of Russia, was built in Long Acre, London, 1762, by order of the imbecile Emperor, Peter the Third, but his deposition and death occurred before it was finished. Its grandeur was at the time the general theme of admiration; the harness with gilded buckles, cost thirteen hundred pounds, then considered a large sum, and the whole was finished with sumptuous elegance. The Empress Catherine first used it at her coronation in Moscow, on Nov. 3, in that year.

THE riband and badge of the Order of the Garter which so recently adorned the person of the late Emperor Nicholas, is the same now worn by the Emperor Napoleon. One day mine, to-morrow thine. Sic transit Gloria Mundi!

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATIONS.

G. F., of Liverpool, who complains of the difficulty he has in determining what are the particular purposes of certain Associations, the names of which he comes in contact with in various publications, is referred to Hume's Learned Societies and Printing-Clubs in Great Britain, 1853, 8vo., which supplies all the required information, and should find a place in all libraries, public or private.

HENRY THE FIFTH, in 1415, embarked for France, from Southampton, but from what part had become matter of doubt; recently an old pier or jetty has been discovered while digging, and appears to solve the difficulty.

FRANKLIN'S MANUSCRIPTS.—In Current Notes, p. 25, reference is made to the letters "of the great Franklin, now in course of publication." Temple Franklin, the possessor of Dr. Franklin's letter-books, was for some time a lodger in the house of Mr. Pulsford, King Street, St. James's Square, and were left there by him. Some years after Mr. Pulsford parted with them to a friend, to whom the agent of the Smithsonian Institution, at Philadelphia, on application respecting these manuscripts was referred; they were purchased by that gentleman at a very handsome sum. Mr. Pulsford had also for some time the *missing* maps of the Oregon territory, about which a few years since there was so much talk. As he attached no value to them, they were suffered to decay, and at length were destroyed.

Can any correspondent state whether Franklin's Correspondence is published, and how it can be obtained?

S.

Franklin's Manuscripts are still in England, but are about to be transmitted to America, for the purpose of being edited and published by Mr. Jared Sparks, and are intended to form five additional volumes to the ten already printed; but many months may elapse before they appear.—ED.

HOYVILLE.—The name HOYLE appears to be derived from Hoyville, the family name being in various records designated Hoyvile, Hoyville, Hoyvill, Hoyuile, Hoyuille, Hoiuille, Hoiville and Hoyvyle. The family formerly held the manors of Fifield and Dorchester in Oxfordshire, and were also resident in Derbyshire. Can any Correspondent of Current Notes state what are the arms, crest and motto borne by any branch bearing any of these designations? or where any pedigrees of them may be found?

Rotherham, May 10. UNUS GENTIS.

Neither Guillim or Edmondson notice any of these names.

HOYLE.—Your Correspondent who enquires, p. 31, after the family and arms of HOYLE, should direct his attention to the West Riding of Yorkshire, where that name is of frequent occurrence, and especially I would refer him to Watson's History of Halifax,* 1775, 4to., where there are notices of many individuals of that name. At p. 304 he gives the arms of Hoill or Hoyle—

Ermine, a mullet *or*. For crest, on a wreath, an helmet, above all, a Griffin's Head erased.

Stradbrooke, May 11. J. T. A.

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* The Rev. John Watson, formerly Fellow of Brazenose College, Oxford, and Rector of Stockport, Cheshire, died March 14, 1783; his only daughter, Ann Watson, died recently in her ninety-first year, at Macclesfield, April 20, 1855.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LIV.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [JUNE, 1855.

DID SPENSER THE POET DIE IN DUBLIN?

SOME time since it was announced in a now extinct Dublin periodical, that Spenser, the author of the Fairy Queen, died in that city; the assertion was made on the authority of the late John Bernard Trotter, formerly private secretary to Charles James Fox; supported by documents in the Irish Record Office. The impression on my mind was, that after Spenser was burned out at Kilcolman Castle he fled to London, and died about three months afterwards at Westminster. Ben Jonson says that he died from want of bread. Can there be any doubt on the subject?

John Bernard Trotter was born here, and received his elementary education in this town. He was a man of considerable literary acquirements and taste. He was the author of the Memoirs of the distinguished Statesman, which pass under his name, and contributed to several of the leading periodicals of his day. He died in 1818, at Cork, in very depressed circumstances.

Downpatrick, June 1. JAMES A. PILSON.

Trotter's assertion is entitled to no consideration, as the facts resolve themselves to but few particulars. George Chalmers, in reference to Tyrone's rebellion, states correctly—"The Irish of Munster rising universally in October, 1598, laid waste the country and expelled the English. Neither Kilcolman nor Spenser were spared. He was thus constrained to return, with his wife and family, to England, but in ruined circumstances." Camden says that being plundered of his fortune in Ireland, the poet in 1598 was obliged to return to England, where he died in the same or the next year, and was buried in St. Peter's Church, Westminster, next to the monument of Geoffrey Chaucer. There is, however, coeval evidence that at an inn or lodging-house in King Street, Westminster, in which doubtless he and his family were domiciled immediately upon their arrival in London, Spenser died on January 16, 1598-9, the expenses of his burial being defrayed by the Earl of Essex, and the pall at the funeral being held up by several distinguished poetical contemporaries.

Ben Jonson's statement, that Spenser died by absolute want of bread, and that while living he spurned the relief offered to him by the Earl, was a conversational averment made to Drummond of Hawthornden, in 1619; but the latter has recorded of his friend Ben, that he was guilty of interpreting the best sayings and deeds often to the worst! Spenser had his pension, which he doubtless as a servant of the Queen duly received; his situation, though in ruined circumstances, was not that of abject want, and the expenses of his burial, though borne by the Earl, are rather to be considered as an honorary distinction rendered to the remains of one whom that nobleman looked upon as entitled to his generosity, being both poetically and politically known to him.—ED.

NOTES ON THE FAMILY OF HOYLE.

MY attention having been drawn to some enquiries in recent numbers of Current Notes, in reference to the family of Hoyle, I forward the following:—

The origin of this family was from Flanders or Brabant, whence they came and settled some centuries since in the Yorkshire dales.

A branch of the family of some pretension, located in the parish of Ripponden, in the West Riding, not far from Halifax, where they acquired considerable possessions, and allied themselves with several of the ancient Yorkshire gentry. The lands of Light Hazels, Hoyle Royd, Swift Place, and the Hollings, all belonged to the family, whose crest and armorial ensigns may still be seen in the several now deserted nanor houses.

About the year 1618, John Hoyle of Swift Place, married Agnes, daughter of John Hanson of Woodhouse, by his wife Agnes, the daughter of Sir John Savile. In the grave yard of Ripponden chapel are many monumental stones erected over members of the family of Hoyle; and over a John Hoyle there is the following epitaph,—

Deo, ac Conjugi plus, justus
Ac propositi tenax, Amicis
Certus, Omnibus Affabilis, ac
Si quid ultra est, sit tota
Vita pro Epitaphio. Vade
Et tu fac similiter.

On one of the bells is an inscription, purporting it to have been presented in 1715, by Elkanah Hoyle, Gentleman. The same Elkanah Hoyle, by his will made in 1717, gave forty shillings yearly out of his estate called "the Hollins" to the poor people of Soyland, and sixty shillings yearly to the incumbent of Ripponden, for preaching a sermon in Ripponden chapel on Ascension-day yearly, with a proviso that if the owner of Swift Place had not a good liking to the incumbent, this money should also be given to the poor of the parish, to whom it has been paid for many years past.

Some of the descendants of this family are, I believe, now settled in or about Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in Northumberland.

The arms borne by the Hoyle family—on a field *ermine*, a Mullett *or*. For Crest, on a helmet, a Griffin's head erased.

ROGER HANSON.

THE Hoyles of the chapelry of Ripponden, in the parish of Halifax, came from Flanders several centuries since, and bear for arms, on a field *erm.*, a Mullet *or.*;

and for crest, on a Helmet, a Griffin's Head erased. The same arms were borne by a family of that name so far back as the battle of Agincourt.

The time of the persecutions of the Duke of Alva, is the presumed date of the settlement of the Hoyles in Yorkshire, where they became possessed of considerable lands in the parish of Ripponden; among these were the Hollins, Swift Place, and Light Hazles, besides extensive estates in Barkisland, Soyland, and elsewhere.

An Elkanah Hoyle lived at Swift Place in 1618. One of his sons, another Elkanah, died about 1717, and by his will left forty shillings a year, charged on the estate called the Hollins, and sixty shillings a year from Swift Place, to the poor of Ripponden. He married Agnes, daughter of John Hanson, of Woodhouse, a lineal descendant of the De Rastricks; by his wife Agnes, daughter of Sir John Savile.

A copy of the will of this Elkanah Hoyle is in the Town's Box, at Ripponden. A branch of the Yorkshire Hoyles is now settled about Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Old Jewry, June 15. ALTERUM GENTIS.

IN the ante-church of St. Nicholas, in this town, is a flat stone placed over the grave of Richard Hoyle, and Cecilia, his wife. He is thereon described as late of Denton Hall, near Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Merchant, and formerly of Swift Place, in the County of York. They both died in 1819, and the stone bears the arms described in your May number of Current Notes, p. 40.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne. ALIQUIS.

GROTESQUE IN CHURCH ARCHITECTURE.

THE Camden Society and other Critics have erroneously interpreted the hideous and obscene imagery which is often found within a church, on corbels and bosses, and elsewhere. In Morwenstow Church, in Cornwall, there are two faces, one on the curve, and the other on the shoulder of an arch. The era is early Norman in style and date. One of these is the distorted countenance of a man, and he lolls out his tongue at you, as you look up; the other is fixed in a fierce and horrible laugh. Both are called by the Forefathers "the Grin of Arius," and both were intended to depict the heretic mocking at the Mysteries of the Church. The name of this grimace of sculpture is derived from a painting of the Council of Nicæa, now, I think, in the Vatican; wherein Arius is shewn among the Doctors with a fearful laugh of mockery and malice on his baffled visage.

The climax of every baleful passion, whether of revenge, or hatred, or fear, is a convulsion of spasmodic laughter. There are corbels in the cathedral of St. Kentigern, at Glasgow, which represent the Fiends as they grasp the separate soul of the Lost, and their demoniac faces are shivering with "the Grin of Arius," into a stony laugh.

Morwenstow. R. S. HAWKER.

OVER DOOR INSCRIPTIONS.

THE inscription over the entrance of Lord Brougham's country house at Cannes, in the South of France, is a Latin translation of a Greek epigram. The original may be seen in the first book of the Anthologia Græca of Planudes, or in the ninth book of the Palatine Anthology, and indeed in many of the minor collections.

Your correspondent has left out a word in the Pentameter line, and mis-spelled another. The true reading is—

> Inveni portum; Spes et Fortuna, valete:
> Me sat lusistis; ludite nunc alios.

I know not who was the author of this metrical version, whether Grotius, or Bellicarius, or one of the Stevens, or some other person.

Upon a monument erected at Basle, to the memory of a Protestant clergyman, who died in 1564, is or was the following parody of the Greek original. It reminds us as much of the Apostle Paul as of the Greek epigrammatist.

> ἐλπις και πιστις, μεγα χαιρετε; τον λιμεν' ἐνρον.
> ὀνρανιοισι θεοις μουνος ἐνεστιν ἐρως.

> O faith, O hope, I bid you both farewell:
> For now with love among the Saints I dwell.

Brechin, May 28.

A CORRESPONDENT in the last number of Current Notes enquires whence the couplet he quotes as inscribed over the door of Lord Brougham's country seat at Cannes, is derived,—it must however have been mis-quoted, the noble Lord is too accurate a scholar to have allowed blunders in grammar and metre to be engraved on his walls, nor can I in charity believe that two Scotch Humanity Professors could have inscribed or restored a distich so worded. The true version is—

> Inveni portum. Spes et Fortuna valete,
> Nil mihi vobiscum; ludite nunc alios.

Sat me lusistis would be a fair various reading.

Burton, in his Anatomy of Melancholy, Part II. Sect. 3, Mem. 6, ascribes it to Prudentius, with this reference —Distichon ejus in Militem Christianum, e Græco— engraven on the tomb of Fr. Puccius the Florentine, in Rome. Chytræus in Deliciis.

The only edition I have of Prudentius, in Maittaire's Corpus, does not contain it. Probably it will be found in the later and more ample edition, printed in 1788, by Bodoni at Parma.

I might perhaps properly transcribe Mr. Galloway's version—

> Inveni portam—Spes et fortuna valete,
> Sat me ludistis—ludite alios.

Portam, a haven of rest after the storms of life, is a meagre substitute for Portum. Ludistis is an error for lusistis, and the omission of nunc destroys the metre.

C. F. NEWMARCH.

Leverton Rectory, Boston, June 2.

I ENTER on the subject of your correspondent's enquiry more with a view of placing on record in your columns what I believe to be the more correct version of the 'pleasing melancholy' in that oft adopted quotation rather than to satisfy his query from what author it is borrowed—the latter I cannot do. I have never met with it but as a quotation, and very variously phrased.

Inveni portum, Spes et fortuna valete!
Sat me lusistis, ludite nunc alios.

I would suggest as more grammatically as well as more metrically perfect than his own version in your May number.

The lines I have heard assigned to Propertius or Tibullus in their Elegies, as well as to Claudian and some of the Italian poets of the era of Pope Leo the Tenth. These suggestions derived from others have not realised the discovery of the source whence the lines are taken, they may however serve as hints to Mr. Galloway in his future researches.

Fleet Street, June 6. J. W. B.

THE correct reading of the Epigram, cited by your Correspondent, David Galloway, p. 36, of the last May number, is this—

Inveni portum; Spes et Fortuna valete!
Me sat lusistis; ludite nunc alios.

It will be found in the Anthologia Græca, cum Versione Latina H. Grotii, edita ab H. De Bosch, Ultraj. 1795-1810, 4to,. Vol. IV., p. 219. It is neither "the invention of the versatile Baron," nor "borrowed from a French author," but the translation of an anonymous Greek Epigram in the said Anthologia, Vol. I. p. 318.

Ἐλπὶς καὶ σὺ Τύχη μέγα χαίρετε τὸν λιμέν' εὗρον.
Οὐδεν ἐμοὶ χ' ὑμῖν. παίζετε τοὺς μετ' ἐμέ.

The translation of Grotius is—

Iam reperi portum: Spes et Fortuna valete!
Ludite, vobiscum nil mihi, nunc alios.

Here the second verse is faulty both with respect to the latinity and to the metre. The syntax is easily corrected by a simple transition:

Nil mihi vobiscum; ludite nunc alios.

Another version may be seen in Burmann's Anthologia Latina, lib. iv. p. 213. It has also been translated by Sir Thomas More, and by Fred. Morell. The latter might possibly be the French author alluded to by the Rev. James Anderton.

Another Epigram of eight verses, beginning nearly the same, and evidently an expanded imitation of the former occurs in De Bosch's edition, Vol. i. p. 102.

Ἐλπὶς καὶ οὐ Τύχη μέγα χαίρετε. τὴν ὁδοὺ εὗρον, etc.

Hawkshead, June 11. D. B. H.

LE SAGE is the French author from whom is taken the motto inscribed by Lord Brougham, over the principal entrance to his country house at Cannes. The tenth chapter of the ninth book of his Gil Blas ends thus—

Nous nous verrons bientôt dans notre hameau; et je veux en y arrivant, écrire sur la porte de ma maison ces deux vers latins, en lettres d'or:

Inveni portum. Spes et Fortuna, valete;
Sat me lusistis; ludite nunc alios.

Bristol, May 26. F. S. DONATO.

YOUR Correspondent, Current Notes, p. 36, will find these lines in Book ix. chap. 10. of Gil Blas, as having been inscribed by him in golden letters over the door of his house at Lirias near Valencia, the gift of the Lords of Leyva; and should Mr. Galloway be disposed to read the delightful description of Gil Blas' journey after his release from the tower of Segovia to this charming retreat; the description of the place and the country, and the account of his marriage with the fair Antonia, will doubtless afford him much pleasure.

Lord Brougham in all probability found the inscription in Gil Blas, I dare say a favourite book with him.

Putney, May 28. RICHARD TALLEMACH.

SMOLLETT's translation of the ninth book of Le Sage's Gil Blas, has the passage thus—

I think it my indispensable duty to share the sweets of my retirement with the authors of my being. Our journey will not be long. We shall soon see ourselves settled in our hamlet, where, when I arrive, I will write over the door of my house, these two Latin verses in letters of gold—

Inveni portum. Spes et Fortuna valete:
Sat me lusistis, ludite nunc alios.

Mr. Galloway quotes it thus,—

Inveni portam, spes et fortuna valete,
Me sat ludistis, ludite alios.

Kensington, May 28. R. C. KIDD.

OVER one of the entrances of the castle at Stirling, was a basso-relievo, with the following lines:—

ESSPY · SPEIK · FVRTH · AND · SPAIR · NOTHT
CONSIDDER · WEIL · I · CAIR · NOTHT
THE · MOIR · I · STAND · ON · OPPIN · HIGHT
MY · FAVLTIS · MOIR · SVBIECT · AR · TO · SITHT
1584.

The stone bearing this inscription has been moved since 1800.

DOOR-HEAD verse graven in stone over the porch of Morwenstow Vicarage, in Cornwall, built by the present Vicar.

A HOUSE: A GLEBE: A POUND A DAY:*
A PLEASANT PLACE TO WATCH AND PRAY:
BE TRUE TO CHURCH: BE KIND TO POOR,
O MINISTER, FOR EVERMORE.

* The annual value of the vicarage rentcharge.

COMBUSTION OF THE DIAMOND.

Some years since I remember to have read the name of the person who first discovered the properties of the diamond, and fancied I had taken a note of the circumstance; but unluckily, I find neither my memorandum, nor can I bring to mind the source of that information. Can any reader of Current Notes kindly refer me to where it is to be found?

Cambridge, June 7. B. A.

Prior, in his Life of Goldsmith, 1837, vol. I. p. 180, under the year 1755, notices, "At Paris, Goldsmith attended the lectures of Rouelle, an eminent professor of chemistry, who first ascertained the composition of the diamond by submitting it to combustion." Ed.

Cur moriatur homo cui salva crescit in horto?
Why dies the man in whose garden groweth sage?

Can any reader of Current Notes say who was the author of this hexameter?

Downpatrick, June 4. J. A. P.

INSCRIPTIONS IN BOOKS.

Such inscriptions are often very interesting. From a tolerably rich collection in my possession, I select the following, from a presentation copy of Meditations and Contemplations by James Hervey, A.B., eighth edition, 1750. These "little volumes" are beautifully bound in old red morocco, with exquisitely tooled backs and borders:—

To
Dr. Robert Nesbitt,
Who is humbly desired by the Author,
To accept these little Volumes,
As a very sincere,
Though inconsiderable,
Expression of his Gratitude,
For the Dr.'s generous and constant care in attending him,
As well as eminent and successful skill in recovering him,
When sick of a violent and dangerous Fever.

On the fly-leaf of a beautiful copy of the Holy Bible, Edinburgh, printed by Evan Tyler, Printer to the King's most excellent Majesty, 1649, bound in the original old blue morocco, with richly gilded tooling on the back and sides, and silver clasps, is written in a fine lady-like hand:

Sarah Andrew,
her bible, 1658.

God tooke the Soule of my dear husband Jan. 30, 1683; who lies buried in Ashby Church, in the south side, above the door on the right hand.

Immediately under, with a very tremulous pen, is written:

God tooke the Soule of my dear Mother, Aprill 10, 1704, who lies at my father's feet.

How deeply interesting would be this notice, should it happily meet the eye of any descendant of Sarah Andrew.

Canonbury, June 2. George Daniel.

POSTURE OF THE BURIED DEAD.

Throughout the ritual of past ages there is a deep embodiment of doctrine in every gesture and every deed,—not one stone is placed upon another in the material sanctuary; not a lifted finger, or a bent brow in spiritual worship, but it hath a meaning. Nothing can be more graphic, nothing, being interpreted, more eloquent than the attitude of the unconscious dead; because "the gate of the morning" is the kebla of Christian hope, inasmuch as the Messiah, whose symbolic name was the Orient, arrived, at his first advent, in that region, and will return in fulfilment of prophecy on the chariots of cloud from the east, for judgment; we therefore place our departed with their heads westward, and their feet and faces towards the eastern sky, in order that at the outshine of the last day, and the sound of the Archangel, they may start from their dust, like soldiers from their sleep, and stand before the Son of Man suddenly! But, wherefore is it then that in the dim niches of old cathedrals, or in the far away chancels of remote and rural churches, we stumble upon graves which denote by the structure of the tomb, or by some reversed symbol upon the stone, that those who moulder beneath have been laid to rest in a position totally diverse from the usual dead? In Clovelly church not far from the Tamar spring, is an Abbot's sepulchre, and his crosier carved on the chancel floor, lies with the head eastward, and the lower end of the staff, with the feet of the dead, points towards the western wall.

In the transept of my own church is a priest's grave, nameless indeed, but marked by a stepped cross, that is laid down in the same reversed way; and there are others of a similar kind in many an antique church, but all such marks distinguish and define the resting place of the Bishop, Abbot, or Priest, Martyr, Confessor, or early Saint. Hence a prophecy was symbolised by such a grave, and a theme of thought was buried there. The apostles were "to sit on future thrones," and to assist the judgment. The Master was to arrive for doom, "amid his ancients gloriously." "The saints were to judge the world," there were to be servants of God, whose office it should be to arise first from the dead at the last day, and to accompany the Son of Man to the field of judgment. Thence arose that rubrical enactment for the burial of the clergy "habeant caput versus altare," and thence in contrast with the other dead, their different position in the grave. It was to signify preparation and readiness to arise, and to follow after their Lord in the air, when he shall arrive from the east, and accompanied by his Saints pass onward to the west, towards the valley of Armageddon, to make the clouds his chariot, and travel on the wings of the wind. Thus, in the posture of the departed multitudes, the sign is, "We look for the Son of Man,—ad Orientem Judah;" and in the attitude of his appointed witnesses, thus saith the legend on the tomb of his priests—"They arose and followed him."

Morwenstow. R. S. Hawker.

CIRCULAR MODE OF SEPULTURE IN IRELAND.

In the cemetery attached to the ancient Priory church of St. John, at St. John's Point, in the county of Down, the cists or graves, contrary to the usual mode of lying east and west, here form a circle, the feet converging to the centre. Similar dispositions of the dead in cists have been discovered in other localities in Ireland; and in the third volume of the Archæological Journal, the same has been noticed in Wales, at a place called Town of Chapel, where it is said, in or about the year 450, a great battle was fought, and many Irishmen were slain.

Downpatrick, June 4. JAMES A. PILSON.

WELSH BURIAL CUSTOM.

A SINGULAR custom is observed here of covering the graves of the young and the unmarried with lime thickly spread upon the top of the mound, the sides being of turf. On inquiry, the clerk of the parish informed me it was used to denote the age of the occupant, the graves of those of more mature years being either covered with cinders, or the common mould.

Llangollen, June 5. G.

DORSETSHIRE ANTIQUITIES.

A LETTER dated Dorchester, Oct. 2, 1758, contains the following notice, which may possibly be of use to the antiquary.

Last week, as a farmer was ploughing up part of an inclosed field near Blandford, the ploughshare struck against an earthern vessel or urn, and being quite rotten, broke it in two. It was full of ashes and pieces of human bones, among which was the head of a javelin, or spear, of an uncommon fashion and size, much too heavy to be wielded easily by any common man, weighing thirteen pounds and a half, and measuring twenty-eight inches long, the socket being three inches and a quarter in diameter. In the same vessel was also a brass helmet, which seemed to have been curiously wrought, but much decayed by time, the rust having eaten holes through it. Its diameter was twelve inches and three-quarters, and weighed nearly eleven pounds.

J. G. S.

ON Her Majesty's birthday, the 24th ult., the London letter-carriers appeared for the first time in their new costume, scarlet tunic or frock coats, and on the blue collar, in worked yellow letters, G. P. O., with the number of the individual so employed.

ROBERT BURNS' "Jessy Lewars," afterwards Mrs. Thomson, died at Dumfries, on Saturday 26th ult., at the advanced age of nearly eighty years.

ON Monday, June 11, the cattle market held for centuries in Smithfield ceased; the first held in Copenhagen fields was on Friday, June 15.

THE SYMBOLIC HAND.

WHENCE is the origin of the use of the Symbol of the Hand as implying power? A practice that appears to have been general in the earliest ages, and in most countries.

Norwich. R. F.

The earliest era of this emblem ascends into the Ogygian depths of unrecorded Time. The Pentacle, or Sigillum Salomonis by which he ruled the demons, attests its solemn usage as a Mythic sign by that supernatural king. This gravure on his seal was a double triangle, so intersected as to give out five angular points, the Fingers of Omnipotence, or the Hand of God. The Scutum Davidis, or heraldic bearing of that king shewed six angles, to indicate by the added point, the human nature of the Messiah, the manhood taken into God the Trinity, as partaker of might. Each of these figures survives as the carvure of a boss in the chancel of Morwenstow church. The hieroglyphic of the Hand received also sanction and approval, as the Ensign of Almighty power, from those shadowy Fingers which came forth, and moved along the wall with the legendary doom of Belshazzar the king. Thus the Hand as the source of Power became the signal of the gift of Power from the oldest time till now.

Morwenstow, June 12. R. S. HAWKER.

FRENCH MYSTERIES AND STAGE PLAYS.

DE BEAUCHAMPS, in his Recherches sur les Theatres de France, notices among the writers of Mysteries before the time of Jodelle, Jean du Pont-Alais, who was not only the chief and manager of the players of Moralities and Farces in France, at the close of the fifteenth century, but according to Du Verdier, was also the author of many Mysteries, Moralities, Satires and Farces which were represented or recited publicly on stages in Paris. He appears to have been a most extraordinary humourist, his repartees and manner of delivering them procuring him admission to the first families, among whom he appears to have been tolerated as a Jester. Nor was this general freedom allowed him among the more distinguished personages, but he frequently had the honour of approaching the presence of Louis XII., and his successor Francis I. Some of his jocoseries are recorded. He was deformed, and one day saluting a Cardinal who had the same ill fortune, so placed himself that his back touched that of the prelate. "Monseigneur," said he, "you see that in despite of the proverb—mountains may meet."

It was customary before the printing of play-bills, for a player to accompany a drummer* to squares, thoroughfares and public places, make an eulogium on the piece about to be represented, and invite the public to see it performed. Pont-Alais had once the audacity to cause his drum to be beaten on a Sunday morning in sermon

* So in Kemp's Jig, Sly accompanies him with his drum; and Hogarth, in his print of the Fair, represents the theatrical amazon beating the drum to excite an attraction among the crowd.

time, and a new piece announced, in the open space opposite the church Saint Eustace. The curate observing the people in a crowd leaving the church, left the pulpit, and going to the player, asked "Who made you daring enough to beat your drum while I preach?" "And who," replied Pont-Alais, "made you daring enough to preach while my drum was beating?" The unexpected insolence of the repartee for the moment silenced the curate, but on an application to the magistrate, Pont-Alais was visited by six months' imprisonment.

The persons of the troop appear to have played parts and performed other menial services. The barber of Pont-Alais complained the parts given to him to represent were too insignificant, on which the manager gave him that of one of the kings of the East, seated him on a high throne, and maliciously standing behind his shoulders, repeated:—

Je suis des moindres le mineur
Et n'ai pas vaillant un-teston;
Mais le roi d'Inde le majeur,
M'a souvent rasè le menton.

I'm the least of the least,
Not a sixpence to save me;
But this king of the East
Very often has shav'd me.

When Pont-Alais died is not stated; De Beauchamps places him under 1537; why, does not appear. He is noticed by Rabelais, but spoken of as then dead.

WAY-SIDE CROSSES.

Large Crosses of stone were in the Catholic ages erected by the monks on all the highways and places of public resort, as confirmations of faith in the death of the Saviour; and as if the spirit of devotion had penetrated into the recesses of forests, trees from their position and size were converted into similar emblems of the sufferings of Christ. The alder, however, to so sacred a distinction formed the only bar of exception, being by the faithful traditionally believed to retain the curse of the silver for which Judas Iscariot had sold his Lord and Master, a tree upon which they with horror averred the betrayer had expiated his last crime, when in despair he hanged himself.

Corpses in their way to interment were rested at the feet of these frail memorials of human redemption, and during these delays the attendants were variously employed. Keeners, the hired performers of sorrow, bewailed in strains of professional pathos, the decease of those whose lives had been marked by acts of beneficence and mercy. Others, of a more humble grade, kneeled about the coffin, and silently testified their grief by mechanically moving their lips and counting their beads, while a select few were appointed to recite dolorous offices, and pray for the repose of the soul of the departed. Priests also officiated at these halting places, and if the defunct had been of the sacerdotal order, sang laudatory hymns and chanted lugubrious litanies addressed to the Virgin and Saints, selected from the Garden of the Soul, and from other rituals and books of Romish devotion.

The solitude connected with the wild bye ways, through which frequently these solemn cortéges passed in their direction to some remote churchyard, generally produced a depressing sadness—an awful stillness like that of the grave to which they were proceeding, gloomily accorded with the silent discomfiting aspect of these melancholy regions, where the dreary expanses of withered heath, expressed the product of Nature as in a decayed and dying state, but, no sooner did the elevated position of the way side cross present itself to observation, like an object of "some patient and abiding grief," than the feelings of the mourners experienced an instantaneous change, the bewailing effusions of some were renewed, and the wilderness again became vocal.

The worshipping of Crosses is supposed to have originated with the anchorites of Thebais, and the other ascetics of the oriental deserts, but in the mediæval ages, they became with all orthodox Catholics, from the tilting Crusader to the itinerant beadsman, venerated objects of devotion.* Digby in his Mores Catholici, or Ages of Faith, asserts, they formed the whole Gospels in one sign and character contracted, and the whole science of Jesus Christ crucified,—"putrid trunks," as the followers of Wickliffe quaintly termed them, before which blind multitudes prostrated themselves with as much fervid zeal as if so many redeemers lay bleeding thereon. Such in truth was the idol worship of those vaunted ages, when the faith in Christ attested by the lives of

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* Britton in his Architectural Antiquities, while noticing the introduction of fixed crosses, remarks that representations thereof "were first cut on the top of single upright stones; afterwards the shaft was ornamented and its sculpture varied in different localities, according to the skill or fancy of the person who raised it. In Scotland, Wales, Cumberland, Cornwall, and some other English counties, many of these relics of antiquity are still remaining, and serve to show the forms and shapes generally used, and the ornaments most commonly applied to them. They appear to have been erected for various purposes; but the greater part may be classed under the following heads—memorials of designation, or boundary objects of demarcation, for property, parishes, and sanctuary—sepulchral mementoes—memorials of battles, murder, and fatal events—places of public prayer and proclamation; some were also placed by the road side, in churchyards, in market places, at the junctions of three or four roads or streets, and on spots where the body of a deceased person had halted in the way to interment. It was a common practice for mendicants to station themselves by the side of these crosses and beg alms in the name of Jesus." Notices of all these descriptions of Crosses will be found in Holland's Cruciana; and in the Illustrations of Stone Crosses, now in course of publication by J. H. Le Keux, containing one hundred engravings of the most interesting remains in England and Wales, which will supply a great desideratum in archæology. Many of the plates are already engraved, and prospectuses, by which early copies will be secured, may be had on application to Mr. Willis.—Ed.

the early Christians, and sealed with the blood of the martyrs, degenerated into a spurious devotion, until nothing remained of its divine origin but the empty show of pompous entertainments.

The Cross indeed may have its utility in the mind, but only as a memento of the Redeemer's sufferings and death; to bow down to it is a superstitious vanity, irreconcileable with the spirituality of Christian worship.

Caldicot, Monmouthshire, June 8. W. L.

THE paths across the moorlands in old Cornwall, are said to have been first traced by angels' feet; they were then trodden by the Pilgrim as he paced the path towards his votive bourne; or by the Palmer, whose listless footsteps had neither fixed kebla, nor future abode. Dimly visible by the darker hue of the worn grass, these strait and narrow roads led the traveller along from hermitage to chapelry or cave; or turned aside to greet some legendary spring, until at last the winding way stood still upon the shore where St. Michael of the Mount rebuked the dragon beside the Severn Sea. But what was the wanderer's guide along the wide wild surface of the Cornish moor? The wayside Cross! From mound to mound, from rifted rock to lofty hill, there stood in solemn stone, the trophy of old Syria, to be the soothing signal of the solitude, the welcome beacon of the wayfarer's eye. It was a frequent vow among the former men to make pilgrimage to the shrine of St. Michael—

> Where the great vision of the guarded Mount
> Looks toward Namancos and Bayona's hold;

and from the fords of the Tamar, to the Archangel's hill, the wayside crosses were the guides and the guardians of their westward course; as they stood by one, they hailed another on the distant heath, and were glad, for in those days—

> The magnet woo'd her iron mate in vain.

Morwenstow, June 12. R. S. HAWKER.

CLEVER.—Another usage of this word has currency in this locality among those who speak English. The word is used adverbially, and applied to anything done well or in a skilful manner. Thus, sheep in good order, are said to be clever; and if a future improvement is pointed out, the remark is instantly—it will look clever!

Llangollen, June 5. G.

QUERIES.—Are there any particulars extant of emigrants from Flanders and from Ireland to England in the fifteenth century?

Are there any lists of Henry, Duke of Richmond's adherents, engaged with him in the conflict at Bosworth field, in August, 1485?

Where are Edmondson, Mowbray Herald's Manuscripts deposited?

Rotherham, June 14. F. W. H.

Edmondson died Feb. 17, 1786: his library and manuscripts were dispersed by sale in 1788.—ED.

LANDS OF THE LORDS OF THE ISLES.

DUNTILM Castle in the Isle of Skye, the ancient stronghold of the Macdonalds, Lords of the Isles, built upon a high and rocky point, was in former ages surrounded in part by the sea, and by means of a ditch or moat, which in times when gunpowder was unknown, was thus rendered impregnable: its ruins yet remain.

The illustrious family of the Macdonalds then located themselves on the estate of Kilmuir, at the north end of the island of Skye, and resided there for centuries before the erection of the modern and elegant castle of Armadale. The estate of Kilmuir, constituting the most valuable portion of what remained of the almost regal possessions of the once all-powerful Lords of the Isles, was sold in the Parliament House, Edinburgh, on May 30, to Captain Fraser of Kilduckie, at the upset price of 80,000*l.*

In the churchyard of Kilmuir are buried the remains of the celebrated Flora Macdonald and several other members of the Kingsburgh family, which entertained and sheltered the unfortunate Charles Edward Stuart, when a fugitive after the disaster of Culloden.

EARLY CAREER OF THE LATE JOSEPH HUME, M.P.

THE distinction achieved by the late Joseph Hume has been attributed to an incident said to have occurred in his boyhood, which was first promulgated in the Christian Penny Magazine.

> The history of the celebrated Joseph Hume is curious. His mother considerably more than half a century ago, sold crockery at a stall. A very rich young peer, in a drunken frolic, upset her stock and smashed it. Lord Panmure was his name. She claimed and received damages, "and now, my good woman," said he, "is there any thing else I can do for you?" She replied—she had a son, a sharp little fellow, whom she wished to receive a better education than she could give him. The peer being pleased with the boy sent him to an excellent school. The boy, in Parliament will have contributed to upset and smash the crockery of privilege more than any other Englishman.

In the Morning Herald, this circumstance met with a partial refutation, in these words.—

> This anecdote is founded on fact, but not correctly told. The Hon. William Maule, some thirty or forty years before he was created Lord Panmure, professed to believe in the power of Animal Magnetism, as the modern Mesmerism was termed some sixty or seventy years ago; it was, however, not in a drunken frolic that he broke the crockery, but in frolic, and to astonish the weak minds of his companions at the inn of Montrose, that he induced the widow Hume herself, under the supposed influence of a mesmerising or magnetic process conducted by Mr. Maule, to break the crockery in her own shop. The sequel is, we believe, correctly told.

In England, the press has an all pervading power and incidents like these impress themselves on the comprehension of most minds, becoming in fact household words, and when based in error, are difficult to amend or rectify. The statements here recited, are wholly in-

accurate; in reference to either Lord Panmure or Joseph Hume, it is wholly a fiction, and had no reality. The starting point in the life of such a man as Joseph Hume, who will ever be entitled to the consideration of being one of the most meritorious individuals of his day, should be accurately told, and Hume was wholly unknown to Lord Panmure, till after his appearance in Parliament.

The facts connected with the breaking of the crockery are now given on the relation of an intimate friend of the late Lord Panmure, who witnessed the frolic, and was aware of all the circumstances connected with that affair.

In one of the years 1794, 5, or 6, during the race week at Montrose, several of the young gentlemen landowners of the neighbourhood, including the Lord Panmure, then the Hon. William Ramsay Maule, laid a bet of ten pounds with the late Archibald Scott, of Duninald, that he would not in open day, break a certain quantity of crockery at the Cross of Montrose. He accepted the bet, and on the day appointed, in front of the Town Hall, a temporary scaffold was raised and loaded with all sorts of articles in crockery ware. Mr. Scott, at the hour required, mounted the rostrum, and to the no small amusement and surprise of the bystanders, began in good earnest to break and destroy the fragile materials which were set about and before him.

Thus it is shewn that Mr. Maule was not the sole actor in this matter, nor was it perpetrated in the necromantic style implied in the preceding paragraphs, which are calculated to mislead and create a generally very erroneous impression, from the names of the parties therein asserted to have been implicated; and the effect of this crockery breaking affair, as the late Lord Panmure used to remark, was, Mr. Scott was so abashed and so ashamed of his foolish exhibition, that from that time he almost wholly withdrew himself from society.

The maiden name of Joseph Hume's mother was Mary Allan, and it is quite true that she kept a crockery shop in Montrose, to which she added the sale of toys, groceries, and other little requirements; she further endeavoured to eke out a scanty existence by letting lodgings. Her shop was opposite to a place called the Shorebrae, in Montrose, and her husband commanded a small vessel in the Newcastle trade, which probably led to her dealing in crockery.

Whether Mrs. Hume supplied the articles for Mr. A. Scott's exhibition, and thus created some supposition in connection with the origin of the tradition is not known, but whoever did so, the claim was discharged at the time; and supposing the farce to have occurred in 1794, Joseph Hume was then seventeen years old; to his mother's industry he was indebted for his education, and he was then passing midway through his studies at college. It is believed, that it was through the influence of David Scott, then an East India Director and Member for Forfarshire, Joseph Hume obtained his appointment in the Company's service, to which he did so much honour.

Brechin, June 11. A. J.

SWALLOWS TAKEN BY ARTIFICIAL FLIES.

A LITTLE incident occurred a few days since, which though not strictly suited to the character of your Current Notes, is notwithstanding worthy of being noticed.

A friend, who lives in the neighbourhood of Llanrwst, was out fishing with Peter Hughes, the fisherman of that place. While so employed, he heard Peter, who was a few yards above him, call out, and on going to him, found that a swallow had taken the fly, and as they were winding up the line to release it, a sparrow-hawk made a swoop to seize the swallow, who by struggling got free, but so narrowly that the point fly caught the hawk by the foot, and he was secured.

Last year, while fishing in the Ceiriog, a small stream that flows by Chirk, my fly, an exceedingly neat one, made by John Shaw of Shrewsbury, was taken by a swallow; by exercising some care I set him free with very little injury; but I have never heard of anything like the former incident.

Llangollen, June 5. G.

SEALED LETTERS.—Observing, in a collection of old papers, the wax seals were interwoven with unwrought silk, may I ask at what period the practice became general?

Diss, June 8. W. M.

Garnier, in his Histoire de France, quoted in the Esprit des Journeaux, April 1782, states, Charles the Fifth, when indisposed with the gout, "s'efforcoit d'ouvrier la lettre de Henri, mais comme elle etoit enlacée avec de fils de soie, ses doights couvert de nodus et presque perclus ne pouvoit les rompre."

Shakespeare, in his Lover's Complaint, alludes to the custom:

> —— Letters sadly penn'd in blood,
> With sleided silk, feat and affectedly
> Enswath'd and seal'd to curious secrecy.

Sir John Cullum describes a letter so secured, that had been transmitted from Christina, Queen of Sweden, to our Charles the Second. In fact, the practice continued among the upper ranks of society in England during the reign of King William the Third.

COINAGE.—The Mint return, recently issued, shows that during 1854, the gold coinage amounted to 4,152,183*l.*, of which 562,572*l.* was in half sovereigns. The silver coinage amounted to 140,480*l.*, of which 55,041*l.* was in florins. The copper coined amounted to 61,538*l.*

INQUIRER will doubtless find specimens of the Swedish Copper Money in the British Museum, but the editor would willingly shew him his own varieties, and refer him to others of the larger representative pieces, as also the one Daler Swedish Mint Tokens, derisively designated 'Baron Gortz's Gods,' the issue of which, to aid King Charles the Twelfth, was one of the charges of treason made against that minister. The history of these pieces has yet to be written.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LV.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [JULY, 1855.

SONG IN DISPRAISE OF WOMEN.

From a Manuscript, time of King Henry VII.

THES wemen all,
Both great and* small,
They wander to and fro;
Nowe here, now there,
They wot not where,
But J will not say so!

They rune, they range,
Theyr myndes do change,
They mak theyr frends yᶜ foe;
At louers trewe,
Gidy days and newe,
But J will not say so!

Wythin their brest,
Theyr loue doth rest,
Who lyst to pue shall know;
For all ther bost,
All day almost,
But J will not say so!

Now whot, now colde
Ther ys no holde,
But as the wynd doth blowe;
When all is done,
Change like the moon,
But J will not say so!

They loue, they leyue,
They will deceiue,
As dyse that meyn do throwe;
Who vsyth them myche,
Shall neuer be ryche,
But J will not say so!

Gyue thys, gyue that,
All thyngs they lacke,
And all you may bestowe;
Ones ought of syghte,
Farewell, good nyght,
But J will not say so!

Thus one and other,
Takyth after the mother,
As cockes by kynd do crowe;
My song ys endyd,
The best maye be amended,
But J will not say so!

The Harl. MS. 7578, has a version of this ballad, which Ritson has printed, see Ancient Songs, 1790, p. 134.

* The word 'and' is indicated by an imperfectly formed "and per se," shewing the then use of that character.

ROYAL THEATRICALS AT HAMPTON COURT.

INDUCED by the beauty and cheapness of the late Mr. John Kemble Chapman's History of Theatrical Entertainments at Court, more particularly those performed before Her Majesty at Windsor Castle, in 1848-9, I became a purchaser, and found in it much to approve and commend. Considerable research is embodied in its well printed pages, and the numerous engravings with which it is embellished are entitled to the highest praise: it is altogether a pleasingly interesting volume.

During the reigns of Elizabeth, James the First, and Charles the First, there were Court representations of Theatrical performances at Hampton Court; but at p. 31, it is stated "William the Third had no taste for the drama, nor have we any record of dramatic entertainments at Court until four plays were performed at St. James's before Queen Anne in 1704. That George the First, who spoke no English, and was past the learning of it, early in 1718, ordered the Great Hall at Hampton Court Palace to be fitted up as a theatre, where plays were to have been acted twice a week during the summer season, by way of propitiating public opinion in the encouragement of the drama; but the month of September was more than half passed before the arrangements were completed, and seven plays were all that were represented before the Court returned to London."

Colley Cibber, who in his Apology states many interesting particulars of these performances, notices that subsequently but one play was given at Hampton Court by King George the Second, for the entertainment of the Duke of Lorraine; and from that period till the present reign, it is certain no theatrical representations have graced the festivities of the Regal Court of England.

These observations are preludial to the purport of an unpublished letter by the late WILLIAM CAPON, formerly a scene painter of no mean notoriety at Drury Lane and Covent Garden Theatres. Written in 1821, it appears to have reference to some Dutch print of a theatrical performance in William the Third's reign, most probably in Holland, but supposed to have been a graphic illustration in his time of the Royal Theatre at Hampton Court. It commences:—

"In the summer of 1783, I was for the first time at Hampton Court Palace. In the great Hall built by Cardinal Wolsey, there was then remaining a Theatre, with some scenery, an orchestra, etc., which was called King William the Third's Theatre. The whole was very dirty and shabby in appearance, and to the best of my recollection, might have been about eighteen or twenty feet wide from the first wing on the one side, to

the opposite wing on the other, and about the same in depth from the front of the stage to the last scene at the back. There were, I think, four pairs of wings, some scenes on rollers, and hanging borders, but much torn, and very dirty.

"The painted decorations which were exposed to the eye, were to the best of my recollection very like to those shewn in this print; they were at least of a similar style of architecture.

"The stage was raised about four or five feet above the floor of the hall. In this print, the Lion shewn on the breast of the guardsman on the left hand, are the arms of Holland; on the breast of the one, on the right, are the arms of Zealand; but whether these are intended to show some of King William's Dutch body-guard, I know not. We may suppose some dramatic representation is proceeding by the appearance of the persons on the stage, but there is a vastness of size of the whole when compared with the human figures, which does not correspond with the size of the theatre which I remember in the hall of Hampton Court Palace; and reckoning the human figures as shewn in the print, at six feet, the wings (if wings they are intended to represent,) are about eighteen feet high from the feet of the first men on each side, to the top of the cornice, from the crown moulding, of which the arched borders vault; again, the disposition of each side is so different to the usual arrangement of a theatre, that I am at a loss to conclude what the artist has really intended to shew. If each side is one continued plane standing parallel to the other, as far as to the distant range of figures, which evidently are purposely in shadow in order to throw a strong light on the next distant plane, which is at a right angle with the sides, this disposition is quite contrary to all usuality of practice in stage arrangement, and is not a picture so dissected as is convenient to the exits and entrances of the performers, and required by the business of the stage, for here could be no entrance but from behind, otherwise than at the doors in the front on each side; nor was the disposition of the stage at Hampton Court in the manner here shewn,—the wings there in the usual manner stood parallel to the ground line, and to each other, to facilitate the entrances and exits of the performers from behind the scenes.

"In this very extraordinary and scarce print, there have been three plates employed to produce its present appearance. That which shews the stage to the foot of the figures standing on it, is of superior merit to the other representing a Proscenium vaulting over with a semi-elliptical arch; an orchestra, and pit and side boxes. By the inscription at the bottom, it was published at Amsterdam. The publisher's name appears, but not those of the artists, or date.

"The verses in Low Dutch at the foot of the print, are evidently from the marks, worked from a third plate.

"Colley Cibber in his Apology particularly describes the effects produced by an alteration that was made in Vanbrugh's theatre in the Haymarket, subsequently the Italian Opera House, shortly after it had been built in 1706,—the throwing an arch from wall to wall, over the front of the stage.

"There seems in this view taken altogether some such similarity as might induce a belief this print may possibly represent that theatre with the alterations mentioned by Cibber; and the shape of the orchestra is really very like to the brick foundations discovered by me, after the destruction of that theatre in June, 1789, when and during the following winter I made most accurate measurements and plans of the whole ruins, and perspective views, particularly from the north end, of its appearance after the fire.* I then saw distinctly former foundations of walls, which had been by the pit flooring wholly concealed from observation.

"W. Capon."

STERNE'S LE FEVRE.

The following Memorandum from a Manuscript by the late Mr. Halpin of Portarlington, Queen's County, Ireland; in the possession of Dr. Hanlon, of that town, may possibly interest the readers of Current Notes.

The first master of the French school, at Portarlington, was Mr. Le Fevre, who kept boarders, a most worthy character, a friend and correspondent of Dr. Henry Maude, bishop of Meath, the original founder and promoter of the Protestant Charter Schools. From Le Fevre's school others were established, particularly for infant children, so that the town of Portarlington, for more than half a century has been celebrated for its schools, there being at present [1811] six reputable seminaries for the instruction of the youth of both sexes; three for males, and three for females, which conjointly contain three hundred children.

Le Fevre the protomaster's son bore a commission in the army, and was the identical Le Fevre of whom Sterne in his Tristram Shandy has drawn so good a picture.

Dublin, July 6. A. S.

COUNTESS MELBOURNE'S LINES ON A BED.

Many years since, in my mother's folio Common Place book, I remember some "Lines on a Bed," attributed at the time to the Countess Melbourne; what they were I have long since forgotten; they were very popular, and most of my acquaintances remember something, or pretend they do, yet their recollections are nothing. Can any reader of Current Notes kindly refresh my memory's dream of what I once thought very pleasing?

Bath, July 6. Euphemia.

The lines referred to are probably the once well known charade, written by the Countess so early as 1790, if not before.

Form'd long ago, yet made to day,
'Tis most employ'd while others sleep;
What few are known to give away,
Yet none can e'er desire to keep.

---

* These drawings and plans are in the editor's possession.

THE ASSUANLEE CUP.

COLLECTORS of rarities regard with particular attention the Cups or vessels which have been in the olden day owned by distinguished individuals, or have derived a special interest from their association with some memorable event. In this respect there are few can vie with the silver Cup now in the possession of Mrs. Alexander Gordon, only surviving child of the late Sir Ernest Gordon of Park and Cobairdy, and the history of its acquirement by Sir Ernest's father, is equally bordering on romance, with the manner in which it is said to have been originally obtained.

Mr. Jervise in his recently published History and Traditions of the Land of the Lindsays, has entered fully into the history of the transactions which in the reign of James the Second led to the rebellion of the adherents of Douglas and Crawford, caused by the ruthless act of that monarch stabbing Douglas to the heart, while under an invitation to supper in the Castle of Stirling, on the evening of Feb. 13, 1452; the particulars are thus related :—

Douglas went thither on the faith of a safe-conduct under the Great Seal. After supper, His Majesty led Douglas to a side apartment, and remonstrating with him on his lawless intrigue, urged him to break the covenant which he then held with Crawford and Ross, with this demand Douglas, though unarmed and in the midst of foes, determinedly refused to comply, and the King then exclaiming with an oath—If you will not break this league, I shall!—struck him to the heart with a dagger. Sir Patrick Gray and others, who were secreted near the fatal chamber, then rushed on the Earl and finished this cold blooded act of royalty by throwing the carcase out at the window into the palace garden, which aperture has since been called "the Douglas window." This murder was the signal for open rebellion on the part of Earl Douglas's adherents—his brothers instigated by indignation and horror, proclaimed the King a liar and traitor at the gates of his palace, dragged ignominiously through the streets of Stirling at the tail of a horse, the Earl's safe-conduct, and afterwards set the town on fire.

The battle of Brechin that followed, was fought at the Haercairn, about two miles north-east of the city, on May 18, 1452, when the Earl's party, from circumstances detailed by the historian, were discomfited, and one of the royalists, a son of Donald, the Thane of Cawdor, becoming intermingled with the routed rebels, and unable to extricate himself, went onward with them to Finhaven Castle, where, while quaffing "the blood red wine," the Earl and his followers were aroused by an alarm of the advance of the king's forces under Huntley, and in the confusion consequent on preparing for defence, Calder had opportunity to carry off the silver drinking cup, which on his returning, he presented to his chief as evidence of his having bearded "the Tiger" in his den, and as a reward received an augmentation to his patrimony of Assuanlee, or favours of a like kind.

There are doubts as to Calder's braggart fame; personally he appears to have previously evinced so little courage, that he had been branded and stigmatised as a coward, and according to another account it is intimated, that he had stolen in disguise to the Earl's camp as a spy, yet all agree, that—

A silver cup he from the table bore.

However obtained, the cup remained in the Assuanlee family till about the middle of the last century, when, as related by Mr. Jervise, the following incident occurred.

Some years after the 'forty-five,' a party of gentlemen, Jacobites, and all more or less under the ban of Government, ventured to hold a meeting at a small hostelry in Morayshire, between Elgin and Forres. In the course of their sederunt, one of their number, Gordon of Cobairdy, rose up to mend the fire, and in doing so saw something at the bottom of the peat-bunker, or box for holding the peats, which seemed to glitter. He fished the object out, and found that it was a large and handsome old cup, but flattened. On enquiry it turned out, this was the celebrated Cup of Assuanlee, that had been pledged in security for a debt to the inn-keeper, by the Laird, a drinking spendthrift. Cobairdy, a man of considerable taste, and a collector of rarities, never lost sight of the cup, till opportunity offered when he got it into his possession, though he and his family had to pay more than one sum of money which had been raised by Assuanlee on the security of his little-cared-for heirloom. Cobairdy had it perfectly restored to shape, and on the top or cover had the figure placed, the crest of his family, Gordon of Cobairdy. It has been erroneously stated the arms of the Earl of Crawford were upon it, but there are no arms.—On the lid, in characters apparently of the seventeenth century, is the following inscription

TITUBANTEM FIRMAVIT HUNTLEIUS,
BREICHEN, MAII 20 (or 28) 1453.

Exclusive of the figure, the Gordon crest, the Cup measures in height about fifteen inches, and holds a Scottish pint and two gills.

The woodcut is from a drawing kindly communicated by Lord Lindsay.

INGLEDEW.—Can any reader of Current Notes give an account of the family or birth-place of Thomas Ingeldew, a clerk of the diocese of York, who in 1461 founded two Fellowships in Magdalen College, Oxford?

Newcastle-upon-Tyne. ANGELTHEON.

BOCCACCIO AND CHAUCER.

John Horne Tooke's reprint copy of the Giunta edition of Il Decameron, printed at Florence in 1527, 4to., has many interesting manuscript philological notes, among which the following may not be uninteresting to the readers of Current Notes.

At the end of the Prohemio—piacevoli, sollazzevoli—vole, put at the end, answers to our ful, and has sometimes, probably been corrupted to ble.

Giornata III. Don Felice. The Miller's Tale in Chaucer seems in part taken from this story. Tyrwhitt observes—"I have not been able to discover whence the story of the Miller's Tale is taken; so that for the present I must give Chaucer credit for it as his own invention, though, in general, he appears to have built his Tales both serious and comic upon stories which he found ready made. The great difference is, that in his serious pieces, he often follows his author with the servility of a mere translator, and in consequence his narrative is *jèjune* and constrained; whereas, in the comic, he is generally satisfied with borrowing a slight hint of his subject, which he varies, enlarges, and embellishes at pleasure, and gives the whole, the air and colour of an original."

Giornata VII. Lidia moglie di Nicostrato ama Pirro. The latter part of this story has been adopted by Chaucer, as the latter portion of his Merchant's Tale.

Giornata X. Madonna Dianora, a Casa Messere Ansaldo (chez Mons. Ansaldo) a common phrase in Italian, thus leaving out the sign of relation between Ansaldo and his house, I have not observed this particular omission in any other language. J. H.

Franklin's nationality of character.

Eighty years since the Ministry of that day in deference to the King's wishes, declared America in rebellion, and the sanguinary battle of Bunker's Hill followed in pursuance of orders to which the people of England were directly opposed. Strahan, the King's Printer, was then in Parliament, and was previously on terms of close intimacy with Dr. Franklin, but the latter closed that connection by the following characteristic and manly avowal.

Philadelphia, July 5, 1775.

Mr. Strahan,—You are a member of Parliament, and of that Majority which has doomed my Country to Destruction. You have begun to burn our Towns, and murder our People.—Look upon your hands!—They are stained with the blood of your Relations!—You and I were long Friends:—You are now my Enemy, and

I am yours,
B. Franklin.

The autograph original was sold at Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's on the 20th inst., for thirty-nine shillings.

No man in the crowd of life is remarked, till he has found some sort of pedestal on which he can stand and be seen.—*Jules Janin.*

SPES ET FORTUNA VALETE!

As some interest appears to attach to the Latin couplet which forms the subject of several communications in the last number of Current Notes, I transcribe some lines from Wolters' edition of Petronius, Amst., 1700, containing a somewhat similar couplet, the sentiment of which is perhaps more truthful in its application, than that which Le Sage and Lord Brougham have given to the former. A Farewell to Hope and Fortune is vainly said even by those who were

—— wont to sport
In troubled waters, but now sleep in port.

Ashton-under-Lyne, June 27. J. G. R.

C. Petronii Hilari Pisaurensis Epigramma.
Diis manibus Petronii Antigenidis.

Tu, pede qui stricto vadis persenta, Viator,
Siste, rogo, titulumque meum ne spreveris oro.
Bis quinos annos, mensesque duos, duo soles
In superis feci, tenere nutritus, amatus:
Dogmata Pythagoræ sensi, studiumque sophorum
Et libros legi—legi pia carmina Homeri,
Sive quot Euclides abaco præscripta tulisset.
Delicias habui pariter lususque procaces.
Hæc Hilarus mihi contulerat pater ipse patronus
Si non infelix contraria fata habuissem.
Nunc vero infernas sedes Acherontis ad undis,
Tetraque Tartarei per sidera tendo profundi.
Effugi tumidam vitam; spes, forma, valete;
Nil mihi vobiscum est; alios deludite quæso:
Hæc domus æterna est: hic sum situs, hic ero semper.

THE HAVEN OF ETERNITY.

The Brechin correspondent, who, in Current Notes, p. 42, supplied the Greek epitaph, copied from a monument at Basle, to the memory of a clergyman, 1564, observes, "it reminds us as much of the Apostle Paul, as of the Greek epigrammatist;" it rather reminds me of the impostor Mahomet; for who, but one of his followers, would knowingly have written such a verse as this?

Οὐρανίοισι θεοῖς μοῦνος ἔνεστιν ἔρως.

The former line is not without fault. The blessed who rest in the Lord, cannot be correctly said to *take a long farewell of faith*, for with them faith is realized. The original verse should have remained unaltered; and the pentameter, instead of inspiring a sensual idea, should have conveyed a spiritual one.

Ἐλπὶς καὶ σὺ Τύχη μέγα χαίρετε· τὸν λιμέν' εὗρον.
Ἐν μακάρων νήσοις νῦν ἀνάπαυσιν ἔχω.

Thus both lines are consistent and connected, and free from the objectionable idea—

By Hope beguiled, by wavering Fortune too,
At last I bid a long farewell to you.
I've gained the Port. Securely now I rest
In everlasting regions with the blessed.

Hawkshead, July 9. D. B. H.

OVER DOOR INSCRIPTIONS.

THE inscription imperfectly quoted, Current Notes, p. 43, was not over the entrance of Stirling Castle, and consequently will be sought for there in vain, but it is on 'Mar's Wark,' a building at the head of the Broad Street in Stirling, begun by the Regent Earl of Mar, but now a ruin. The inscription is understood as a defiance to the generally expressed popular discontent, on his pulling down Cambuskenneth abbey, for the stone and building materials for his palace. The inscription in full is thus:—

ESSPY SPEIK FVRTH AND SPAIR NOCHT.
CONSIDDER VEIL I CAIR NOCHT.

THE MOIR I STAND ON OPEN HICHT
MY FAVLTS MOIR SVBIECT AR TO SICHT.

I PRAY AL LUKARIS ON THIS LVGING
VITH GENTLE E TO GIF THAIR IVGING.

Petergate, York, July 5.

YOUR Correspondent, Current Notes, p. 43, could not possibly have seen the inscription said to be over one of the doors of Stirling Castle, but must have copied them from some old book, as there are no such mottoes on the Castle of Stirling, at least so far as I am aware. These inscriptions are in truth from an old ruinous building in the town of Stirling, called Mar's Work, a little to the right of the old kirk. The stones of which the house was built are said to have been brought from the neighbouring priory of Cambuskenneth; and the front wall is decorated with several pieces of well executed sculpture, particularly the royal arms of Scotland. There are also the arms of the founder, the Regent Mar, tutor or guardian of king James the Sixth; and of his Lady, who was of the Tullybardine family.

The three couplets which form the inscription, are on three distinct parts of the building, and as far as I could decypher them in 1849, are as I now send, but the originals are so much obliterated by the weather, that every orthographical particular cannot be vouched for, nor have they, I believe, been in a much better state for the last half century or more. Pennant, in his Second Tour in Scotland, p. 225, has also printed the last couplet incorrectly.

THE MOIR I STANDE ON OPPIN HITHT
MY FAVLTS MOIR SVBIECT ARE TO SITHT.

I PRAIY AL LVIKARIS ON THIS BIGIN
WI GENTEIL EIE TO MARK THAIR LIGIN.

ESSPY SPEIK FVRTH I SAIR NOTHT
CONSIDIR WEIL I SPEIR NOTHT.

Over door inscriptions are frequent on the old castles in Scotland. The castle of Vayne, or the old manor house of Ferne, situated on the north bank of the Noran, a stream remarkable for its clearness and the excellence of its trout; was built by one of the Lindsays, and afterwards repaired by Robert Carnegy, third Earl of Southesk, who married the Lady Anne, eldest daughter of William, the second Duke of Hamilton. Many of Earl Robert's repairs, notwithstanding the castle is now a ruin, are visible about the place, and the doors and windows were formerly ornamented with Horatian and other maxims. Three have been moved from the castle, and placed in various parts of the walls of the adjoining farm-steading. One more elegant than the rest, bears an Earl's coronet, and other sculpture in high-relief, and the Earl's initials in monogram, as here represented—

Along the base line below the monogram, is the following inscription, supposed to have some reference to the 'merry' disposition of his Countess, whose history appears at some length in Grammont's Memoirs.

DISCE MEO EXEMPLO FORMOSIS POSSE CARERE.

On another is this quaint observation—

NON SI MALE NVNC ET SIC ERAT* ANNO DOM. 1678.

The Castle of Vayne is the property of the Hon. William M. Maule of Ferne and Maulesden, brother to the Lord Panmure, and heir presumptive to that title and great estate. Mr. Maule has done much of late to stay Time's devastating hand in despoiling this picturesque ruin, by removing such portions as were likely to fall and injure the rest, and by partial restorations, adding to its general effect and preservation.

OVER a door in the court-yard of the Castle of Mains near Dundee, built by Sir William Graham, great-grandfather of the celebrated Viscount Dundee, who fell at Killicrankie; is this inscription.

PATRIÆ ET POSTERIS. GRATIS ET AMICIS. 1582.

Over the inside of the doorway of Queen Margaret's bower in Linlithgow Palace, these lines of Sir Walter Scott's have been recently insculped—

I. R.
His own Queen Margaret,
Who in Lithgow bower,
All lonely sat,
And wept the weary hour.

---

* The line in Horace—Non si malè nunc et olim sit erit, has been thus translated—

The wretch of to-day may be happy to-morrow.

UPON a wall in the old town of Linlithgow, under an effigy of St. Michael, to whom the chapel was inscribed in old times.

SAINT MICHAEL IS KINDE TO STRANGERS.

ON demolishing in or about 1808, an old waulk or fulling-mill near the abbey of Cupar Angus, in Forfarshire, the following quaint inscription was discovered on a stone over the door; the last line being expressed by carved representations of the articles named.

ANDREW CHAPMAN AND MARG'ET TOD,
[The waulkmill shears, and the pressin 'brod.]

Brechin, July 8. A. J.

SCHOLA SALERNITANA.

J. A. P., of Downpatrick, who enquires who was the author of the hexameter—

Cur *morietur* homo cui Salvia crescit in horto?

will find it in the Schola Salernitana, a book of medical aphorisms, in Leonine verses, compiled, if not by Constantine the founder, at least by one of the Doctors of the once famous medical school at Salerno, about the middle of the eleventh century, and dedicated to King Edward the Confessor. See Muratori Antiquitates, tom. iii., dissert. xl., pp. 686, et seqq. It is not confined to hexameters; for instance,

Ut sis nocte levis, sit tibi cœna brevis.

The Schola Salernitana was first printed in 1480, with a commentary written by Arnoldus Villenovanus, who was living early in the fourteenth century.

Hawkshead, July 4. D. B. H.

THE Leonine hexameter respecting which your correspondent J. A. P. enquires, is the first line of the Thirty-eighth chapter of the Schola Salernitana, "De Salvia;" the following passage being wholly in its praise.

Cur moriatur homo cui Salvia crescit in horto?
Contra vim mortis non est medicamen in hortis.
Salvia confortat nervos, manuumque tremorem
Tollit, et ejus ope febris acuta fugit.
Salvia, castoreum, lavendula, primula veris,
Nasturt., Athanas., hæc sanant paralytica membra.
Salvia salvatrix naturæ conciliatrix.

Salerno in the south of Italy, was in 794, made by Pope Boniface VII., the metropolis of the whole district, and its medical school in the eleventh and twelfth centuries obtained great celebrity, so much so, that it was afterwards constituted a university for granting degrees and licences in medicine. The Schola Salernitana, a Latin poem, consists of hygienic and medical regulations for preserving and restoring health, written in hexameter verses, many of which are leonine, as in the above extract, the middle and terminal words in the first two, and the last lines, rhyme with each other.

The poem, under the authority of the College of Salerno is inscribed to the King of England, as the first line expresses:—

Anglorum regi scribit Schola tota Salerni;

but there are reasons for believing the real author to have been Johannes de Mediolano, a celebrated poet and physician; and this dedication to "the King of England," suggests some points of interesting notice.

Prior to the Norman conquest of England, a body of Norman knights, having been to perform worship at the Holy Sepulchre, were on their return from Jerusalem, driven into Salerno at a time when Guimarus, Prince of Salerno, required aid against a Saracenic invasion. The Normans assisted the Prince, and the invaders were repelled into Sicily; Guimarus duly appreciating their valour, proffered them great inducements to remain in his dominions, but these were of no avail to warriors then on their way homeward. The Prince then sent ambassadors to Normandy, to propose large bounties, high dignities, and every inducement that a rich and fertile country could offer to as many as would settle in his realm. About three hundred of the flower of the Norman nobility were thus induced to settle in his kingdom, when they colonised a part of Apulia and Calabria, and successfully defended the country against the invasions of the Moors. These events occurred about the time of the Norman invasion of England, and sufficiently explain the existence of an intercourse between the Salernians and the English at this period.

William the Norman, by his will left the kingdom of England to his second son Rufus, and to his eldest son Robert, the Dukedom of Normandy. The latter accompanied Godfrey of Bulloine as a crusader to the Holy Land, and was present at the capture of Jerusalem. While there he received tidings of the death of his brother Rufus, slain by the arrow of Sir Walter Tyrrell, August 2, 1100; and leaving Palestine to succeed him, hastened to visit his countrymen at Salerno, and to obtain advice on the treatment of a wound received from a poisoned arrow, during the siege of Jerusalem, which no adopted means had sufficed to heal. Even at Salerno, the proposed cure was, that the lurking poison, should be sucked out of the wound, but as this course was supposed to expose another to a fatal risk, he generously refused to prolong his life by these means. However, during his stay in Italy, he became enamoured with Sibylla, the daughter of the Count of Conversana, and whom he married. She is said, to have opportunely while he slept, and unknown to him, sucked the poison from the wound, and happily, without injury to herself effected his recovery; so that with restored health, he was enabled to proceed to England. It was therefore, while in Italy, and the Duke apparently about to assume the English Crown, that the poem was written, and at his request, addressed to himself, as King of England. His younger brother Henry, had however in the mean time, been elected on August 4, and crowned at Westminster on the day following, Sunday August 5, 1100

The effigy in wood of Robert, Duke of Normandy, with crossed legs, as a leader in the first crusade, is yet extant in Gloucester Cathedral.

The incident of the extracting of the poison from the wound is related with sufficient minuteness of detail, in the Latin preface to the Schola Salernitana, printed at Paris, in 1627, but is, I fear, of a somewhat apocryphal character. A modern physician might question the efficacy of the treatment by mere exhaustion of a poisoned wound so long after the injury had been received; yet later, Queen Eleanor has long been acknowledged the rightful claimant of the honour due to a similar act of generosity, to her own husband, King Edward the First.

Leeds, June 27. J. D. HEATON, M.D.

The line—

Cur moriatur homo cui Salvia crescit in horto?

or hortis, is quoted from the Schola Salernitana, in Elliot's Castle or Regimen of Health. The reason why a man may die notwithstanding all the virtues of Sage, is assigned in the line which follows, somewhat to this effect, for I do not remember the exact words.

Non sunt in hortis tristis medicamina mortis.

T. R.

Cur moriatur homo cui salvia crescit in horto?

is from the Regimen Sanitatis Salernitanum, Oxford edition, 1830, line, 178. The next line answers the question.

Contra vim mortis non est medicamen in hortis.

GARRICK CLUB INAUGURATION DINNER.

The following addressed to Robert Clarke, Esq., Theatre Royal Manchester, will doubtless afford some amusement to the readers of Current Notes, as being highly characteristic of that distinguished Comedian, Charles Mathews. The 'delightful day' at the Garrick Club was noticed at the time by an unaccountable omission of the stewards, all reference to the plays or memory of the immortal bard Shakspeare being in their libations wholly forgotten—the players and their patrons seem to have thought but little at the moment of "the sinking drama."

J. F.

London, Feb. 16, 1832.

MY DEAR CLARKE—You and I, thank God! have lived with each other in such a jocose way, that matter of fact people do not always comprehend, and if I were not aware that you are concerned for another, and, therefore a grave man of business when negociating for him, I really should have thought you only wanted an excuse for saying that you were alive and truly mine. In your hurry you did not think I should speak about my season. Had I received a letter from Mr. Watson for instance, my reply might have been copied from your letter verbatim:—

"Adelphi—We commence our (At Home) season here at Easter, and shall continue open until the 18th of June, or later, if Arnold builds. An alibi, proved, I cannot come!"

The Baronet received the bust safe, and is delighted —"Lay out, Bardolph! and I will thee repay!"

I rejoice at Paganini's success on Mr. Lewis's account. I was not aware by "the Papers," that he had been at Brum. A paragraph has 'gone the round,' as it is termed, that I gave an entertainment to a large party, on Tuesday 7th, but that our festivities were damped by the arrival of the news of Munden's death. I have not, since June last, been at home more than ten days at a time, never had a party since—and dined *tete-a-tete* with my wife on the 7th, ha! ha!

The joint-stock Cholera Company are trying to spread the Coleraphobia, but I do not think success will follow. Shares are at a discount. If you have not read them, and Dr. Unwin, in the *Times* of yesterday, and to-day do—it is doubtless filed where you read, yet there are flats who are panicized! It is worthy of the same nation that allowed Johanna Southcott's name to be pronounced with gravity, or Mr. Kean to act Romeo and Hamlet. I do not believe in the existence of real Asiatic cholera in England. We are going to fast, oh! oh! oh! What shall we come to next? Lord Grey proposed it, because Percival asked for it, to clear his conscience of the sin of living on a pension—and the king said, "D— his eyes if he cared whether they fasted or not,"—and so actors lose a night's salary.

The actors alone are deprived of repast—
The ministers all are paid while *they* fast.

Mr. Freeman, I think is the gentleman's name who travels with Pag.; he promised me an autograph. Can't you and him between you furnish a letter? Try. Have the goodness to read the following bit to my friend Mr. Lewis, "was there any other article besides a mourning ring, a hammer, and a gridiron in the box he was kind enough to present to me? To whom did they belong? I fear I have been robbed. I put the two latter articles, certainly (and as I thought, the former) into a Mulberry-tree box. On my return I found only the hammer and gridiron, yet nothing else in the house is missed. I made a memorandum too of the name of the donor, knowing how treacherous my memory is, excepting in my profession. I have almost betted it was Powell. I am fidgetted to death about it, and am sick with searching. A suspicion of servants—one of ten years growth, etc., is horrible. If the words of the ring were in Mr. Tummas's memory, the pawnbrokers may elucidate. Great regards to Mrs. Clarke, in which we all join to thee also,

Ever sincerely yours, CHARLES MATHEWS.

P.S. The Duke of Sussex presided yesterday at the Inauguration of the Garrick Club: there are 300 members, who are devoted to an attempt to revive the sinking drama—a delightful day!

SHAKESPEARE.—In Johnson's Academie of Love, describing the Folly of Young Men, and the Fallacie of Women, 1641, 4to. p. 99, it is said—

If it were not for some of the old out-of-date grandames, the young sparkish girls would read in Shakespeare day and night.

CUTLER'S POETRY. In the bye-play between Nerissa and Gratiano, in Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice; the latter in extenuation of the charge of having parted with the betrothal ring, calls it—

a paltry ring
That she did give me, whose posey was
For all the world, like cutler's poetry
Upon a knife.

What was this cutler's poetry here mentioned? Did it allude to a motto used by the cutlers in lieu of their names? Are there any remains of this custom extant?

Needham Market, July 19. LINCOLN GREEN.

To present a knife between lovers is said to be an omen of parting, to counteract which some trifle must be given in exchange; Shakespeare, in reference to this belief, makes Gratiano repeat the motto—*Love me and leave me not.* Daggers, knives, and swords in Shakespeare's time presented frequent instances of inscriptions and mottoes, in single lines and couplets. A knife of the early part of the sixteenth century, purchased at Bernal's sale, for the Museum at Marlborough House, has, on the back edge, in raised letters—DE LA FIDELITÉ DERIVE MA FORTVNE.

Knives were formerly presented in pairs, in richly embossed or enriched sheaths, either of leather, or metal richly studded, chased or engraved. A pair of such knives, presented by a lady to her lover occurs in the Bernal sale, no. 3394. The blades steel, but with twisted red horn and silver ornamented handles. On the blade of one is engraved.

With wealth and beauty all doe well,
But constant love doth far excell.
ELIZABETH WALLIS.

And on the blade of the other,—

My love is fix't, I will not range;
I like my choice, I will not change.
ELIZABETH WALLIS.

SPECTATOR.—Joseph Addison of St. James's, and Richard Steele of St. Giles's, gentlemen, assigned on Nov. 10, 1712, to Samuel Buckley, printer and bookseller, a half-share of the copyright of *The Spectator*, then printing in 6 vol., and engaging to continue the work during that month, so as to form a seventh volume, for the sum of 575*l.* The assignment took place at the Fountain Tavern in the Strand, which then stood on the site of the houses now numbered 105 and 106.

Buckley transferred this assignment to Jacob Tonson, junior, on Oct. 13, 1714, for 500*l.*

The autograph original was purchased on the 20th inst. by Messrs. Boone, of Bond Street, for 7*l.* 15s.

DIALECTS.—Professor Adelung asserts there are 3664 known dialects and languages in the world; in America, 1624; in Asia, 937; in Europe, 587; and in Africa, 276; the aggregate of these numbers, however, make but 3424.

INVOCATION OF THE VIRGIN.

EXAMPLES of the Invocation of the Virgin in inscriptions on monumental brasses, are now I believe rarely found, caused doubtless by their being defaced and destroyed as idolatrous by the authorities at the commencement of the Civil War, between Charles the First and the Parliament. The only instance that has fallen under my observation in this county, is at Loughborough, where on the south side of the chancel is a large slab commemorative of a former vicar, whose effigy has long since been erept, but on the margin, on a brass label, so much of the inscription remains—

+ Hic iacet . . . . Rector istius Ecclesie qui o . . . . . ssionem gloriose Virginis Marie. ppiciet. Deus. Amen.

What other instances are known?

Leicester, July 14. WILLIAM KELLY.

UNICORN.—What was the original use of the Unicorn in Heraldry? Was it derived from the East?

BILL NOR BAN! In Dumfries-shire, it is a usual expression with the creditor, when no security has been taken of the debtor, to say "he has neither bill nor ban of him." Formerly, or till within the last sixty or seventy years, it was the practice when a loan was made, for the borrower, to take the lender into his bire, loose a cow's binding (ban), and present it to the latter as a pledge or surety the money would be returned. Has this been a custom in any other district? or can any other instances be adduced of the modes or practices of similar securities in the unlettered conditions of society?

Thornhill, July 18. T. B. G.

HONOUR AND FAME.—Where are the following lines to be found? I had an impression, they were by Sir Walter Scott, but I cannot find them in his works.

The warrior reposes to combat no more;
On his heart and his blade were engraven the same—
Ne'er draw without honour, ne'er sheathe without fame.

Leicester, July 14. WILLIAM KELLY.

G.'s notice of the incident of the Swallow being taken by an artificial fly, Current Notes, p. 48; is not a solitary instance; Hofland, in his Angler's Manual, first edition, pp. 355-6, records another from his own experience. T. R.

ERRATA.—P. 42, col. 2, line 4 from foot, read, Portam is a meagre substitute for Portum, a haven of rest after the storms of life. P. 43, col. 1, line 14 from foot, for transition, read transposition.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LVI.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [AUGUST, 1855.

MASSES FOR THE DEAD.

THE Church as might be expected when Papacy was dominant in these realms, shared largely in the testamentary disposition of property. In the twelfth and thirteenth centuries there were many bequests in aid of service in the Holy Land, and when the furor for the Crusades had passed, jewels, chalices and plate for the decoration of the altar; stuffs of silk or velvet, as furniture for the same purpose; cloth of gold or fine linen, for the officiating vestures of the priests; illuminated books and richly chased or casketed relics are found later profusely lavished on religious establishments. Yet, it was not wholly however from affection to the Church that these and similar testamentary dispositions were so frequently made. The pangs and anxieties of a death bed doubtless often sharpened the stings of conscience, and a superstitious belief obtained that heaven could be bribed into the remission of punishment hereafter, by a sufficient application of piously imported largesses to its ministers, consequently the Church hoped for adequate supplies thus drawn from the timid or the penitent, but the Romish hierarchy was not content with the uncertain advantages thus derived by voluntary bounty, they rendered these and similar legacies compulsory by threatenings of posthumous vengeance. Saintfoix has recorded* that so late as the sixteenth century, the French bishops claimed a right to refuse burial to persons dying intestate, or what to them produced the same effect, those who had omitted the Church in their wills, and the prohibition continued until the relatives paid the purchase of their interment.

Masses for the repose of the soul of the testator and his ancestors were consequently of general occurrence in the last wills of persons of wealth and distinction, yet whatever might have been the veneration of the departing testators for those who celebrated these masses, or whatever might be their soul's belief in their absolving influence from the pains and penalties of purgatory, it is evident that in all cases, the awarding of certain sums for such service had constantly the character of imposing a profitless contract with the chantry and other priests, and the endeavour was apparent to obtain from the ghostly fathers as much as was possible in the shortest space of time for the least possible amount of money. Thus Joan Lady Cobham, in 1369, desires that seven thousand masses should be said for her soul by the Canons of Tunbrugge and Tanfugge, and the four orders of Friars in London, the Preachers, Minors, Augustines, and Carmelites, who for so doing were to be paid no more than 29*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, or something less than a penny per mass.

Alice West, in 1395, enjoined that four thousand four hundred masses should be sung and said for the soul of Sir Thomas West, her lord and husband, for her own soul, and for all christian souls, *in the most haste that may be*, within fourteen nights next after her decease: and the Canons of Christ Church were endowed with no larger sum than forty pounds to read and sing masses for her own soul and that of her lord *so long as the world shall last!*

William Beauchamp, Lord Bergavenny, by his will dated April 25, 1408, directed that ten thousand masses were to be said for his soul *in all possible haste* after his death, by the most honest priest that could be found. In like manner in 1409, seven of the most honest priests that could be found were to receive five pounds each for singing a whole year for the soul of Elizabeth Lady Despenser.

Thomas Beaufort, Duke of Exeter, youngest natural son of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, and Chaucer's relative, Catherine Swinford, gave in 1426, fourpence per mass for one thousand masses, to be said immediately after his death, *on the following day if possible, or the second or third at farthest;* but then, it must be understood these highly priced services involved masses for a large list of departed souls; his own, those of his father and mother, of all his benefactors, and though last, not least, all the faithful deceased. The priest, moreover, might not sing *ad libitum*, but was constrained to the observance of certain particular forms; and in eight hundred of these masses, two hundred were to be of the Holy Ghost, two hundred of the Blessed Virgin, two hundred of All Saints, one hundred of the Angels, and one hundred of *Requiem æternam.*

In 1434, Joan Lady Bergavenny ordained that anon after her burying, there be done for her soul, five thousand masses *in all the haste that they may be goodly.* Possibly this promptitude was supposed to shorten the soul's stay in purgatory.

Henry Cardinal Beaufort, Bishop of Winchester, second son of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, by Catherine Swinford, in his will and the codicils annexed, dated January 20, 1447, is more than ordinarily solicitous to purchase the goodwill of heaven. An unusual attachment to life has been handed down as a special characteristic of this celebrated prelate; Shakespeare in eloquent phraseology alludes to this all-engrossing passion—

> If thou beest death, I'll give thee England's treasure
> Enough to purchase such another island,
> So thou wilt let me live and feel no pain.

Henry VI. Second part, Act III. scene 3.

* Historical Essays upon Paris, Vol. I. p. 32.

He died April 11, 1447, and Rapin has recorded the Cardinal died in despair that his riches could not exempt him from mortality.

In his will he required that ten thousand masses should be said for his soul as soon as possible after his decease, namely, three thousand of requiem, three thousand *de rorate cœli desuper*, three thousand of the Holy Ghost, and one thousand of the Trinity. He appointed three masses to be celebrated by three monks every day in the chapel of his sepulchre at Winchester, and the name of Henry Cardinal to be pronounced each time. To the abbey and convent of St. Augustine he remitted a debt of 366*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, in consideration of their embodying his name in three masses daily. In like manner, and on a similar condition, he remitted to the Convent of Christ's Church, Canterbury, one thousand pounds, that they provided three monks to celebrate three masses for his soul *daily for ever* in his Church of Winchester, and that they observed his obit every year.

Sir John Nevill in 1449 required his executors to "ordayne an honest and a kunning priest" to sing for his soul twelve months, whose salary was to be ten marks.

Ann, Duchess of Buckingham, in her will proved Oct. 31, 1480, directed twenty pence to be given to every priest in Sion, and in the Charter Houses of London and Shene, for five masses and as many diriges for the soul of her most dear and best beloved husband, Humphrey, Duke of Buckingham, her own soul, and all her children's souls. She willed also 6*s.* 8*d.*, to the anchorite in the wall beside Bishopsgate, to pray in twenty masses for the souls before mentioned.

Sir Thomas Lyttleton, the celebrated Judge and author of the well known Treatise on Tenures, who died at Frankley in Worcestershire, August 23, 1481, in his will appears singularly devout and liberal. Three good priests were to be found to sing three trentals, so that every priest by himself said one trental, and they were to have right sufficiently for their labour. Another priest was to sing five masses and a rowe; and the Prior of the Monastery of our Blessed Lady at Worcester was to receive one hundred shillings yearly, for singing daily at seven in the morning at the altar of St. George and St. Christopher. Every monk of the said convent who said a mass of requiem every Friday was to have two pence paid to him for his trouble, by the hands of the sexton; and whenever the convent sang the annual Placebo, Dirige, and Requiem, they were to have 6*s.* 8*d.* *for their disport and recreation*, and one hundred pounds in fee, for performing that divine service.

The practice of these fallacies and delusions which the Papal religion so insidiously inculcated in the minds of its votaries were summarily annihilated in the subversion of the monasteries and chantries by King Henry the Eighth, and his successor King Edward the Sixth.

THE celebrity of the visit of King Henry the Eighth to Francis the First, in 1520, will be as nothing in History, compared with that of Queen Victoria to the Emperor Napoleon.

THE SKIMMING-DISH HAT.

The enamoured rhymist who in his jollity of soul began his exordium with—

> To Ladies eyes a round, boys,
> We can't refuse, we can't refuse!

had he lived in our days, and noticed the round hats worn by our ladies of all ages and classes, would doubtless have been as laudatory of their hats, which seem to have no bounds in their circular extent. Fashion has a strongly diversified impulse, and appears in some matters to bear an all-powerful sway even over the good sense of many, or why this general adoption of a hat that renders some faces ludicrous in the extreme? In the reign of Louis the Sixteenth, a period of much inconsistency and erratic rule, which presented a direful presage of what did follow, though the court and its parasites were too blind to foresee the more than probable results; the hat as at present worn by the ladies had the same prevalence of fashion, but was then induced by a cause not very generally known. The king and his brothers were no Josephs, and in one of the dairies attached to the grounds of the palace was a young woman of more than ordinary beauty and attractions. Monsieur d'Artois had glanced his eye on this charming servant of the crown, and doubtless fancied his position, gave him every authority to press his suit. Proof against his importunities, she one day bade him to be seated, and placing a skimming dish upon his head, ran out of the dairy at the instant that some of the courtiers were in quest of him. The surprise of the moment and the odd figure Monsieur presented, excited a general laugh, nor did the matter stop here, it was whispered from one to another, till it reached the ears of the ladies of the court, who in satisfying their curiosity had hats made in the form of a skimming dish, and these being found not inconsistently to add charms to many a really pretty face; it became general, and as popular as now.

TILED IN.—We say of a man in good circumstances, or of one in a thriving condition; or of one who appears to be relieved from any particular application to business as a means of maintenance—he is tiled in. I have asked frequently what does this phrase mean? The answer has been his hat covers his head, and I am told, a hat is a tile! It is clear there is some hidden meaning in the saying, will any reader of Current Notes solve it?

Bath, August 13. E. B. H.

The phrase is possibly derived from the fact, that rich men in the olden time lived in houses of which a principal enrichment was the tiles laid in the floors, or which lined the walls, in radiant and splendid colours. This species of decoration of houses, was formerly held in high esteem, and was a distinctive mark of wealth in the possessors, hence arose the old Spanish proverb, Nunca hará casa con azulejos—He will never have a house adorned with glazed tiles; that is, he will never thrive, or be a rich man. To be tiled in, therefore implies, he has already sufficient to maintain the expenses of his house.

CHINESE MYTHOLOGY ON PORCELAIN.

The following Notes, though written by the late Mr. James Christie, so long since as 1807, will be found to proffer much curious detail in reference to the embellishments and mythological figures on various objects of Oriental Porcelain, and will doubtless be considered as explanatory of many incidents and persons generally considered inexplicable.

The scanty reports of Missionaries, and even of later travellers in China, leave much to be known respecting that country; and the difficulty of the Chinese language prevents our deriving much intelligence from the natives. Amidst this dearth of information, it is satisfactory to know that we possess valuable documents at home. The proficiency of the Chinese in the chief branch of their manufactures, the state of their fine arts, and even the religious opinions of the people may be collected from their Porcelain.*

In the numerous private cabinets in this metropolis are specimens of the most precious kinds of Porcelain, for which the Chinese have been for many centuries pre-eminent, and the manufactories of our own country already experience the benefit of these models. With the advantages of more correct principles of design, the knowledge of perspective, and of the harmony of colours, we are only deficient in understanding the mixture of the materials, and the plastic part, to rival the productions of Eastern Asia in this line. The former may be made good to us by our *superior* chemical science, the latter will no doubt be acquired by patience and care. Every one must therefore, applaud the curiosity which leads to forming such collections, and must cease to wonder at the high price at which objects of such beauty and importance have been estimated.

The kind of Porcelain chiefly prized, is termed MANDARIN, or Egg-shell. It displays the greatest ingenuity in the fabric, its characteristic is extreme delicacy, and the objects depicted upon it are of the most exquisite pencilling and enamel. The marks however by which the Mandarin Porcelain may be known are not decidedly agreed upon: some persons have ventured to recommend it by the thinness and transparency of the material; others by the contrast of some rich colour on the outside, with a green verditer within; others again rely, and perhaps with juster reason, upon the quadrangular cluster of characters inscribed on the bottom of the vessels. These groups, it is believed, are the most ancient characters of China, changed from their hieroglyphical to a quadrate form, and are used as a court character. The inscription merely records the Dynasty and Emperor, under which the specific piece of porcelain was made.

The CRACKLE China is admired for the cracks observable in the varnish, which it is believed, are occasioned by the vase being suddenly exposed to a cool draught of air, while the varnish is yet warm.*

The more thick ENAMEL China is less to be admired for its earth and painting, than for the richness of the colours laid on in varnish, and for the curious symbols with which it is embellished.

The BURNT-IN China is considered of inferior quality, but this mode of colouring gives admirable richness and effect, when introduced upon the genuine specimens of the Old Japan, which is of massive manufacture, and admired for its weight.

The properly so called, OLD JAPAN, combines almost every quality that is separately admired in the porcelain of China. The broad flowers depicted upon it are displayed in blue and red, burnt in, with the addition of a little enamel. But what chiefly gives richness to these specimens, is the bold relief in which some of the flowers are executed, and afterwards gilt and burnished.

The Chinese have discovered a fertile source for the embellishment of these different kinds, in the Fables of their religion; and it is remarkable, that like the Greeks, they have chosen their earthenware to commemorate their most secret doctrines.

* The etymology of the word 'porcelain,' has long been the subject of different opinions. The inventory of the goods of the Duc d'Anjou, 1360, in which is noticed.—Une escuelle d'une pierre appelée pourcellaine; is sufficiently conclusive as to the use of the word in France in the fourteenth century; but this "stone called porcelain," appears to have been some precious material, for the object to which it is attached when mentioned in other instances, is always richly attached or set in gold with pearls or precious stones. It was possibly chalcedony which resembling porcelain in its milky hue and its semi-translucent character, the name porcelain may have been transferred to the substance of the pottery subsequently introduced into Europe by the Portuguese, early in the sixteenth century. Porcellana in the Portuguese language, originally signified "a little pig," and the cowries or small shells used for money in the East, from the similarity of their shape to the back of a little pig, were called by the Portuguese, 'porcella.' Whether the Portuguese who first doubled the Cape of Good Hope, at the close of the fifteenth century, really believed these vessels were made of such shells or of some composition which resembled them, is doubtful, but certain it is, porcellana is found in later Portuguese dictionaries to signify 'a cup,' and the derivation of the word is thence generally deduced.

Porcelain, or China ware, appears to have been known in England in the time of King Henry the Eighth. Sir Edward Montague, an ancestor of the Duke of Manchester, by his will dated July 17, 1556, directed his sons whom he appointed his executors, to "sell as much of his plate, china, rings and jewels, as they think convenient."[a] Later, we find among the New year's gifts presented to Queen Elizabeth on new year's day 1588, Lord Burghley proffered one 'porrynger of whyte porselyn,' garnished with gold; and Mr. Robert Cecill, afterwards Earl of Salisbury, 'a cup of green purselyne.'

[a] Collins' Peerage of England, edit. 1756, vol. ii. p. 638.

* In Marryat's Collections towards a History of Pottery and Porcelain, 1850, 8vo. p. 108, Father Solis, a Portuguese Missionary, is quoted as describing some of these operations as arising from the use of oils of several kinds, some of which are metallic, and by laying the china some months in the mud so soon as it comes from the furnace.

A Chinese Emperor is said to have observed, that the dragons upon his vest were designed for more than merely ornament, that they had a moral signification; we may affirm that many subjects depicted upon porcelain have also a recondite meaning. The operation of the elements upon each other to produce the first created universe, according to the material notions of the gentiles, seems to be expressed by the combinations of the *fiery* dragon, with the Fung Hoang, or bird of Paradise, expressive of air; the Ky-lin or horned-dog, perhaps denoting earth; and the tortoise, fish or the lotus, which indifferently imply water.

FOHI, the ancient founder of the Chinese empire, coëval with Noah, is reported to have seen a tortoise issue from the water, bearing on its back a mystical diagram. This subject is expressed upon some vases, and on this account we find a tortoise-shell pattern adopted upon china, as a border, having open compartments in which flowers are painted and enamelled in natural colours. Hence the date of this appearance to FOHI being considered, we may conclude, the combined emblem denotes the vegetable creation arising from Water.

We collect from Bayer, that FOHI appointed eight Tchin or Spirits; these were preserving spirits to watch round mortals; they are probably no more than the eight persons preserved at the general destruction of mankind, with which FOHI must have been coeval, but which he and a few others survived. These persons may be seen on bowls, plates, and other ware, standing on water, generally supported upon a fish or aquatic animal, and are thus distinguished:—

1. How Cing Koe—a female with a landing net.
2. Hon Chong lie—a boy with a flute.
3. Lit Hit Quay—a man with a crutch and double-gourd.
4. Tong-fong-sok—a man with a fan, and the fruit of immortality.
5. Tchow lok how—a man with rattles or castanets.
6. Lut hong pan—a man with a sword and cowtail.
7. Tchang colao—a man with a bamboo tube and pencils.
8. La mi tsui woo—a youth, or female with a basket of flowers.

The implements depicted upon enamel China, are the symbols of these divinities, and the fruit borne by the fourth person above named has suggested the form of many vessels in porcelain: were a Chinese to present liquor in a vessel so shaped, it might be deemed a flattering mode of salutation.

We find a ninth person superior to these, who may perhaps represent the material heaven; he is almost invariably seated, he rides upon the stork, a bird of supposed longevity, he is bald and aged, and he carries a sceptre. He seems to be THE ANCIENT ONE, a title well known in the Ægyptian, Scythian and Greek Mythologies, as Pi-apas and Jupiter Pappæus.

The combats of these eight Tchin with various evil spirits, are an interesting branch of the Chinese Mythology, but of this too little is yet known to permit our enlarging upon it. The contest seems to correspond with the Titan war of the Western Pagans.

These very imperfects hints may be thought improperly obtruded upon notice; they need not however arrest the attention of the lover of elegant form and ornament: the inquisitive may possibly turn them to useful account.

SCHOLA SALERNITANA.

The author of this work was John of Milan, one of the doctors of the Medical School at Salerno; and the 'Rex Anglorum' to whom it was inscribed was EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, as shown by Muratori. Antiquitates, Tom. III., Dissert. xl. See also Gibbon, chap. 56, vol. x. p. 279, where he remarks upon the opinion or rather error of Pasquier. Recherches de la France, vii. 2, and Ducange sub verbo Leonini.

Louis Vaslet, who at the end of his edition of Alvarez's Latin Prosody, 1730, thus gives the title from an old copy—Schola Salernitana præcepta de Conservanda Valetudine, a Johanne de Mediolano medico Salernitano composita, adds—Inscripsit Roberto Gulielmi primi, Angliæ Regis Conquestoris, filionatu minori, circa 1100. Here is a double mistake, for Robert was not the youngest but the eldest surviving son of the Conqueror.

In Stephens' Geographical Dictionary, by Lloyd, under Salernum, we read—Cujus doctores librum conscripserunt, et Anglorum regi dedicarunt, non Henrico octavo, ut quidam putant, sed Ricardo Secundo, sive Edvardo primo. Heylyn in his Cosmographie, p. 71, makes the same observation, but for Richard the Second writes Richard the First.

That Arnold de Villanova was the author, has been asserted by some who were seemingly led into error by the title of the editio princeps —— Regimen Sanitatis Salernitanum a Magistro Arnaldo de Villanova Catalano* veraciter expositum ac noviter correctum et emendatum per doctores Montispessulani regentes anno 1480, predicto loco actu† moram trahentes; or of that of another edition, without place or date, which reads—Regimen Sanitatis ad regem Aragonum‡ a Magistro Arnaldo de Villanova directum et ordinatum. In other editions the titles read thus—Schola Salernitana, auctore Joanne de Mediolano, cum Arnoldi Villanovani exegesi in singula capita. An English metrical translation of the Schola Salernitana, by an M D., was published not long since in London.

Hawkshead, August 9. D. B. H.

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* De Villa nova Catballani, is the reading in a subsequent edition, with the imprint, Venetiis, per Bernardum de Vitalibus. † i.e. in the discharge of their office.

‡ Possibly the supposition that Henry the Eighth was the Rex Anglorum alluded to, arose from the fact that he married Catherine, daughter of Ferdinand the Second, *last* king of Aragon, five years after that monarch's decease. The Rex Aragonum contemporary with Arnold de Villanova, was Pedro the Fourth, who reigned from 1336 to 1387, and Arnold might have dedicated the work with his own commentary to him, as John of Milan inscribed the original text to Edward the Confessor.

KIRBY FAMILY IN SUFFOLK.

The following extracts from a letter dated Barham, Oct. 17, 1807, addressed to the Rev. W. Layton, by the late Rev. William Kirby, contain some interesting particulars of the Kirby family as located in the county of Suffolk, which will doubtless interest some portion of the numerous readers of Current Notes.

Lee Road, August 9. J. J. H.

The tradition in the family is, that they are descended from one of considerable antiquity in the North of England, one of whom is noticed by Dugdale as an itinerant justice in 1165, 11 Hen. II. The ancestor of the Suffolk branch is said to have been disinherited by his father, and to have settled at Halesworth in that county during the troubles in the time of the great rebellion.

John Kirby, originally a schoolmaster at Orford, but subsequently the occupier of a Mill at Wickham Market, was the compiler of the Suffolk Traveller, printed at Ipswich in 1735,* and of a small map of Suffolk.

His son, Joshua Kirby, F.R. and A. S., born at Parham, near Wickham Market, settled at Ipswich as a house painter. He had a genius for painting, but it must be admitted was a very young artist, when he made the drawings of Schole Inn, and what are called 'the Twelve Prints.' He was however principally eminent for his knowledge of perspective, and his book published in 1755, entitled, 'Dr. Brook Taylor's Method of Perspective made Easy,' contained much original matter, and was received with general approbation. It obtained for him the notice of the Earl of Bute, by whom he was ever afterwards deservedly and highly esteemed; and he introduced him to his present Majesty [King George the Third] when Prince of Wales. Under his patronage, and by his munificent aid, he published in 1761, his magnificent volume, entitled 'The Perspective of Architecture,* deduced from the principles of Dr. Brook Taylor.' The architectonic sector explained in that work was the Earl's invention. In conjunction with my father, he in 1766 published an improved edition of my grandfather's map of Suffolk, upon a larger scale, with engravings of the arms of the principal families in the County, and Views of the Castles of Burgh, Mettingham, Framlingham, Orford, and Bungay; Leiston Abbey, and the gateway to Bury Abbey, the Priories of Butley and Blighburgh; Covehithe Church and St. James's Church, Dunwich.

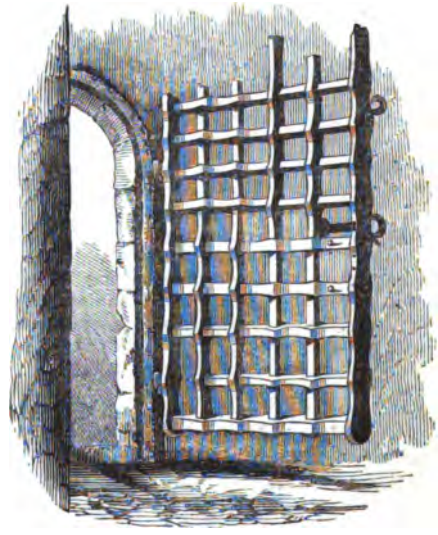
Joshua Kirby married —— Bull, by whom he had two children. William, a very promising artist, who was employed by his Majesty to make drawings in Italy for the Royal Collection. He married Elizabeth Anderson, of Chelsea, and died v. p. leaving no issue. His second child, Sarah, who married Mr. James Trimmer, of Old Brentford, justly distinguished for her numerous works for the religious education and instruction of young persons and the poor, now survives,* surrounded by a numerous family of children and grandchildren.

Mr. Kirby died in 1774, and was interred in Kew Churchyard. Near him lies the celebrated painter Gainsborough, who particularly requested he might be buried by his old friend, of whom he had the highest opinion. Mr. Kirby always gave him good advice, of which Gainsborough was sensible, although he did not always follow it.

* An edition of this work, with considerable additions by the Rev. Richard Canning, perpetual curate of St. Laurence, Ipswich, was printed anonymously in 1764, 8vo.

* Mrs. Trimmer died Dec. 15, 1810, in her 69th year.

SCOTTISH IRON YETS OR GATES.



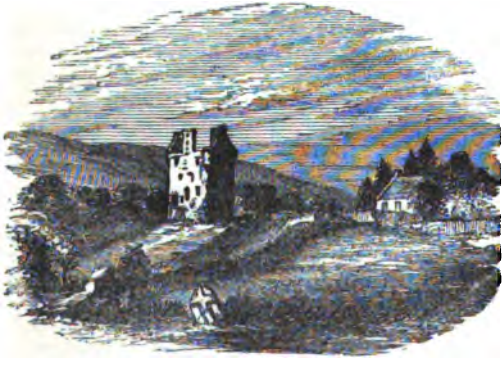
These iron grated yets or gates were formerly used as inner doors to the principal entrances of old castles in Scotland; several of them remain and present perfect representations of their construction and strength. Their general application appears to have followed upon the disuse of the portcullis, and were well adapted as effective safeguards against the invasion of the Cateran, or highland robber, as well as a sure defence against the premeditated assault of one baron upon the home and dependents of another. All baronial buildings situated near any pass in the highlands, or usual roadway or thoroughfare in the lowlands, were provided with them, and remain an incontestable proof of the general insecurity consequent on the lawless state of North Britain, till a very recent date. Still, these yets or gates, however needfully required for the protection of life and property, were not permitted to be attached to private dwellings without especial leave and license from the king, and as these documents are now of ex-

treme rarity, the following yet extant among the archives of the family of Ogilvy of Inverquharity, and kindly communicated by Sir John Ogilvy, will doubtless be read with much interest. It is entitled, "License be the King to Al. Ogilvy of Inercarity to fortifie his house and put ane iron yet therein," and proceeds thus—

JAMES be the grace of God Kinge of Scottis. To all and sindry oure liegies and subdits to qwhais knawlage theis oure Llez [Letters] sall cum gretinge. Wit yhe vs to haue gevin and grauntit full fredome facultez and sp[eci]ele licence to oure loued familiare Sqwier Alex. of Ogilby of Inuerquharady for to fortifie his house and to strenthit with ane Irne yhet. Quharfor we straitly bid and commaunde that na man take on hande to make him impediment stoppinge na distroublace in the makinge, raisinge, hynginge, and vpsettinge of the saide yhet in his said house vndir all payne and charge at eftir may follow.

Geuin vndir oure signet at Streviline the xxv° day of September ande of oure regne the sevint yhere [1573.]

The lands and castle of Inverquharity were held by the ancestors of the present baronet from a period anterior to the year 1405, and were, with the exception of the old messuage and the surrounding park only recently alienated. The house and park are still retained by the family, but the castle is now a ruin. The "Irne yhet" for which the above licence was obtained is still there in its original position. These iron gates hung on strong hinges, and secured by two or three bolts, varying in diameter from two to four inches, were not unfrequently aided in their repellative quality by a thick bar of oak, one end of which being placed in an aperture in the wall, passed immediately behind the gate to an opposite niche chiselled in the stone work to receive it. At many other fortalices in the same district, such gates as here described are remaining; and among them that at Invermark Castle, in the romantic valley of Glenesk, affords a satisfactorily picturesque specimen; that castle, as shewn in the accompanying view—



having been erected in the sixteenth century, and the "irne yet" or gate being a type of all others which I have noticed, is represented at the commencement of this paper.

I am not aware that gates of this or a similar construction can claim any earlier antiquity in Scotland than the reign of James the Sixth. On this point, possibly some of your correspondents can inform me; but connected with the one above engraved, there is a peculiarity which may be briefly noticed. Towards the close of the sixteenth century, while the extensive lordship of Glenesk was held by the old family of Lindsay of Edzell, Sir David Lindsay and his brother Lord Menmuir, founder of the noble house of Balcarras, discovered in the glen, minerals, including gold, silver, brass, and tin, which were leased to a skilful German, and it is stated the gate above depicted was the work of a native blacksmith, from iron ore raised and smelted in Glenesk; in fact, the whole of the iron about the castle of Invermark, of which the gate is almost the only vestige, is also recorded to have been obtained and worked from and upon the same soil. Subsequently, these mineral discoveries were attempted to be continued by the York Buildings Company, but their operations failing of success the works were abandoned.

The tower or castle of Invermark,* now roofless and a ruin, appears to owe much of its dilapidated condition to neglect, as between the time that the estate was sold by the last Lindsay of Edzell, to James, fourth Earl of Panmure, by whom as a Jacobite it was forfeited within the year following the purchase; and the sale of the lands by the Government to the York Buildings Company, the castle is noticed as gradually falling to decay.

* Invermark Castle stands on a rising ground near the junction of the rivers Mark and Lee, in the valley immediately below the fine shooting lodge lately erected by Lord Panmure, and forms a beautiful object in the landscape. Here, almost under the shadow of the venerable ruin, Alexander Ross, author of the well known Scottish poems of Helenore, or the Fortunate Shepherdess; the Rock an' the Wee Pickle Tow, etc., taught the youth of the parish upwards of fifty-two years, and his ashes repose in the old romantically situated kirkyard at the foot of the Loch of Lee, surrounded by rugged mountains from three to four hundred feet in height. The ruins of his humble dwelling are laudably preserved. Some years since a monument of Aberdeen granite was subscribed for by his admirers and erected to his memory, but through the influence of the parish minister of the period, was most absurdly placed in the *new* kirk, which is about a mile distant from the grave of the bard, it is however hoped that a change for the better will remedy this evil, no person being more alive to the propriety of having both men and things in their right place than Lord Panmure, who is sole proprietor of the large and interesting lordship of Glenesk, much of which has received great improvement within the short space of three years.

The shooting lodge recently erected by Lord Panmure is on the side of the hill, to the left of the Castle of Invermark, more than 200 feet above the level of the Loch of Lee. It is built of native granite, in the picturesque style of English cottage architecture, with a tower on the east front.

The house represented in the view, to the right of the castle, is the residence of the parish schoolmaster.

In 1729, the Burlawmen, or those appointed to value the lands and houses on the forfeited properties of the Stuart adherents, in reference to this edifice, made a report, that—the present value of the castle of Innermark, of stone and slate roof is three hundred and sixty-four pounds; and the reparations necessary thereto, is one hundred and ninety pounds, twelve shillings, which it must have in all haste to prevent its going to ruin.* The repairs suggested by the report were immediately made, and the factor or manager of the Panmure portion of the York Buildings' Estates made it his occasional residence. Two of his female descendants were its last occupants, they having continued to inhabit the castle till 1803, when the stone work of the offices, and the timber of the interior were taken to build the adjoining manse for the use of the parish minister.

Brechin, August 9. A. J.

SPES ET FORTUNA VALETE.

I send you an early version of the Greek Epigram lately a subject of discussion in your columns, which I copied in 1852, from an ancient sepulchral monument in the Lateran Gallery at Rome.

The portion of the inscription which I copied is as follows:—

D. M. S. L. ANNIVS OCTAVIANVS VALERIANVS.
Evusi effugi Spes et fortuna valete.
Nil mihi Voviscum est ludificate alios.

JOHN SIMEON.

COMBUSTIBILITY OF THE DIAMOND.

In Current Notes, p. 44, Rouelle the French chemist is said, from Prior's Life of Goldsmith, to have been the first person who ascertained the composition of the Diamond by submitting it to combustion; but that fact had been long since foreseen. Boetius de Boot in his History of Gems, printed in 1609, spoke of the Diamond as an inflammable substance. In the chapter "De Adamante," he intimates—

Quod itaque mastix, quæ igneæ naturæ est, Adamanti facile pingi ,possit, signum est id propter materiæ similitudinem fieri, ac Adamantis materiam igneam et sulphuream esse, atque ipsius humidum intrinsecum et primogenium, cujus beneficio coagulatus est, plane fuisse oleosum, et igneum, aliarum vero gemmarum aqueum.

Non mirum itaque si pinguis, oleosa, et ignea masticis substantia illi absque visus termino adpingi, et applicari, alius vero gemmis non posset.

He quaintly adds—

Qui hac à me data ratione contentus non est, meliorem adferat.

Dublin. A. S.

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* York Buildings' Company Inventory Book, p. 315. For reference to this valuable Manuscript, and to another entitled "Memorandum Book,' both pertaining to Lord Panmure, we are indebted to his Lordship's kindness.

INVOCATION OF THE VIRGIN ON TOMBS.

Ancient epitaphs did not usually contain the words, "Per intercessionem Gloriose Virginis Marie, etc.," but generally, "Cujus anime propicietur Deus," or, "Misericors Deus," or "Quorum animabus, etc."

On the north side, in the church of Streatham, in Surrey, is this inscription:—

Celestial Pryncesse thow blessed Virgin Marie,
Thy Servant Margret Cantlowe, call to Remembraunce,
And pray to thy dere Sonne the Well of all Mercy,
To pardon her Trespas and Fautes of Ignoraunce;
Whiche to Hen. Cantlowe was Wyffe wythoute Varyaunce,
And Dowhtyr also to Nicolas Alwyn,
Mercers of London, God shelde them all from Synne.
The sayd Margrete died V. Day of Marcii, Ao. 1486.

In the north aisle of Carshalton church, in Surrey, is the figure of a woman praying, with this inscription from her mouth:

O blessed Lady of Pittie, pray for me,
That my soul savyd may be.

On the north wall in the chapel of Windsor, is a figure in vestments kneeling before the Virgin and Child, above are the words—

MAGISTER ROBERTVS HONYWODE LEGVM DOCT.

Behind him stands St. Catherine with her sword and wheel; and from his mouth issues this scroll—

Virgo tuum natum pro me precor ora.

And below is inscribed—

Orate pro anima Magistri Roberti Honywode, Legum Doctoris, nuper Archi-Diaconi Tawntoa, ac Canonici hujus Collegii. Qui obiit 22 die Januarii, Anno Dni 1522.

At Hungerford, in Berkshire, occurs this inscription:

Pry pour Mons. Robert de Hungerford, tant cum il vivera, Et pour l'alme de ly appressa mort priere: Synk Cents et sinquante jours de pardon avera grante de quatorse et veoques tant come il fust en vie: per quei en noum de charite: Pater et Ave.

Many monumental inscriptions end in this manner. For instance at East Shelford:—

For whose Soule, of your Charitie say a Pater Noster and Ave.

At Cookham, in the same county, against the north side of the chancel, is a monument, with the figures of a man and a woman, and this inscription under their feet:—

Of your Charitie pray for the Soules of Robert Peeke, Esq., sumtyme Master Clerke of the Spycery with King Harri the Sixt. and Agnes hys Wyfe. Robert decessyd the 14th day of January, in the Yere of our Lord God, a Thousand CCCCC and XVII. Whos Soules and all Crysten Soules Jhesu have Mercy.

Out of the man's mouth issues the words—

Sancta Trinitas, unus Deus, miserere nobis.

And out of the woman's—

Virgo Dei digna, peccantibus esto benigna.

In St. Giles' Church is a similar inscription, but not quite so blasphemous, but all are outdone by the following in the chapel of Windsor, for here we have the blasphemous dogma of the *Immaculate Conception* with a vengeance.

Orate pro animabus Regis Henrici VII^{mi} et Christofori Urswyk, quondam ejus Elemosinarii magni et istius Collegii Decani. Ave Maria, etc. Et Benedicta sit sanctissima tua Mater Anna, ex qua sine macula processit tua purissima caro Virginea. Amen. Deus qui per unigenitum tuum, ex utero Virginis incarnatum, ac morte passum, genus humanum redemisti, eripias quesumus animas Henrici VII^{i} ac Christofori, necnon omnium eorum, quos ipse Christoforus, dum vixit, offendit, ab eterna morte, atq; ad eternam vitam perducas, per X^{m} Dominum nostrum. Amen.

The above are copied literatim.

Hawkshead, August 10. D. B. H.

Mr. Kelly will find in the Rev. Charles Boutell's Monumental Brasses of England, an engraving of a brass of an Ecclesiastic at Great Bromley Church in Essex, having a scroll close to the head, on which is inscribed the invocation.

Mater dei memento mei.

On a memorial brass of Sir Richard Bewfforeste, in the Abbey Church of Sts. Peter and Paul, at Dorchester in Oxfordshire, is also a scroll with this inscription.

O dulcis Mater Virgo Virginū ora p. nobis tuū filiū.

Nottingham, August 7. F. R. N. H.

JOHN INGLEDEU, not *Thomas Ingledew*, a native of Yorkshire, and chaplain to William Patten of Wainflete, Bishop of Winchester, founded in 1461 two Fellowships in Magdalen College, Oxford, for natives of the diocese of York, or Durham; and for their maintenance conveyed to the College for ever, certain lands in Yorkshire. It is possible that these lands may be situate in the locality of his birth; and their situation is doubtless known to the authorities at Oxford. No record is extant to show in what college either he or the bishop received his education. See Wood, Hist. et Antiq. Oxon., tom. II. pp. 187, seqq.

It does not appear that any family of this name is at present resident in Yorkshire. Two individuals of the name reside in the county of Durham, Silvester Ingledew at Stockton-upon-Tees, and James Ingledew at Oaktree, Hurworth; and two in Northumberland, Henry and John Ingledew at Newcastle.

If *Angeltheos** cannot obtain the information he requires, at the Register Office, Wakefield, he may, perhaps, by consulting the Indexes to the Calendars of Inquisitions, Rolls, etc., published by the Record Commissioners; any volume of which may be had for a few shillings.

Hawkshead, Aug. 6. D. B. H.

* This derivation is exceedingly doubtful. See Spelman in v. *Ingle*, and comp. Horace, Book I. Satire viii. lines 2, 3.

GEORGE COLMAN THE ELDER.

The following memorandum, in the autograph of Isaac Reed, is now before me.

August 24th, 1794. Dr. Douglas, bishop of Salisbury, told me at his palace, Salisbury, that General Pulteney offered Mr. Colman a seat in Parliament, and to provide amply for him, if he would quit his theatrical connections, particularly, I think he said, his mistress, Miss Ford, who had been kept by Mossop; had a child by him, and afterwards became his wife.

Is this a known fact, or are there further particulars known? J. C.

The conversation appears to have been caused by the then recent decease of George Colman the elder, in a lunatic asylum, on the 14th of the above month. Miss Ford, who is frequently noticed in the Garrick Correspondence, was, notwithstanding her position with Mossop, and subsequently with Colman, a woman of intellect, and the child referred to, was Griffinhoof, or George Colman the younger. Colman the elder was the nephew of the Countess of Bath, herself said to have been, before her marriage, Bolingbroke's mistress. On the death of the Earl of Bath in 1764, Colman became independent, and notwithstanding his noncompliance with General Pulteney's expressed desire, was further benefited under his will, on his decease in 1767.

THE DEBT OF NATURE.

In Llangollen Churchyard west gate, is the following epitaph on the tomb of Morris and Catherine Jones.

Our life is but a Winter's day—
Some only breakfast and away.
Others to dinner stay and are full fed,
The oldest man but sups, and goes to bed.
Large is his debt who lingers out the day:
Who goes the soonest has the least to pay.

G.

PROGRESS OF MORMON FANATICISM.

Joseph Smith, twenty-five years since assumed the designation of "the prophet," and organised "the Mormon Church," with six members. Smith is since dead, but "the Church" in Utah territory in the United States now embodies three presidents, seven apostles, 2026 "seventies," 715 high priests, 994 elders, 514 priests, 471 teachers, 227 deacons, besides the usual ratio of persons not yet ordained, but in training for the ministry. The total number of the Scandinavian mission is said to have been 533, of whom 409 were Danes, 71 Swedes and 54 Norwegians. Mormonism is a direct avowal of the principle of polygamy, and during the six months which ended in April last, 278 persons in the territory of Utah died, while 965 children were born; 479 persons were baptised in the Mormon faith, and 86 were excommunicated from the church. In the same period, from November 1854 to April 1855 inclusive, the number of Mormonites who left the port of Liverpool *en route* for the Salt Lake, in the United States, comprised a total of 3626 persons, of whom 2231 were English, 401 Scottish, and 287 Welsh.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LVII.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [SEPTEMBER, 1855.

INGLEDEW FELLOWSHIPS AT OXFORD.

Wood's History of Oxford cited by D. B. H. in Current Notes, p. 64, seems to be inaccurate. The Statutes of Magdalen College, Oxford, given by the founder William of Waynflete Bishop of Winchester in 1479, and lately printed by desire of Her Majesty's Commissioners for inquiring into the state of the University of Oxford, from a manuscript in the Bodleian Library, contain the tenor of an ordinance intituled—Compositio Magistri Thomæ Ingeldew—whereby it appears that THOMAS INGLEDEW, not John Ingledew, a Clerk of the Diocese of York gave to Magdalen College, Oxford, a sum of money, not land, to be laid out in the purchase of land for founding two Fellowships, so that the suggestion kindly made by D. B. H., as to obtaining information of Thomas Ingeldew's family or birth place fails to be applicable.

The two Fellows were to celebrate for the souls of Thomas Ingeldew, and of John Bowyke and Eleanor Aske; and it was provided that Thomas Ingeldew's cousin, Richard Marshall of University College, should hold one of the Fellowships.

Besides the persons of the name of Ingledew referred to by D. B. H., there are others of the same name resident in some of the northern parishes of the North Riding of Yorkshire,

It is highly probable that Ingledew, Engledue, and Engledow are corruptions of Angeltheow mentioned in the Saxon Chronicle under the years 626 and 755, keeping in view the Saxon character ð, for th.

Newcastle upon Tyne, Sept. 1. ANGELÐEOW.

ARCTIC ARMORIAL DISTINCTION.

To eternise the memory of Captain James Cook, a coat of arms was granted to his family, by patent dated September 3, 1785. Azure, two polar stars or; a sphere on the plane of meridian, North pole elevated, circles of latitude for every ten degrees, and of longitude for every fifteen; showing the Pacific Ocean bearing 60° and 240° west, bounded on one side, by America; and on the other by Asia and New Holland, in honour of the discoveries made by him in that ocean. His track thereon marked by red lines. For his crest, on a wreath of the colours, an arm embowed, vested in the uniform of a Captain of the Royal Navy. In the hand, a Union Jack, on a staff proper; the arm encircled by a wreath of palm and laurel.

Some such distinction appears to be deservedly due to Commander now Captain McClure for his discovery of the North West Passage.

Sittingbourne, Sept. 3. F. M.

SCHOLA SALERNITANA.

Those who may wish to come to a well founded conclusion concerning the Royal Personage to whom this kind of dedication—

Anglorum Regi scribit Schola tota Salerni;

was addressed, must consult Tiraboschi, and they will find that he is fully of the opinion expressed by Dr. Heaton. The well known erudite author of Italian literature devoted an entire chapter of his great work,* as the Penny Cyclopædia styles it, on the Schola Salernitana; and has therein discussed at length the point in question. Nor did he forget to weigh the opinion given by Muratori on this subject, but, he did not hesitate to assert, with all the respect due to this last named very learned historian, that he gave his opinion of his own accord without any support of historical ground, observing that as the work was addressed to the King of England, this ought to be a real king, and could not be any other than King Edward the Confessor. Upon this, Tiraboschi, besides not seeing any reasonable basis in this opinion expressed by Muratori, observes that, however great might be the name of that School, a King of England would not have written to it, in order to receive from it sanitary counsels and instructions. He then declares himself for Robert Duke of Normandy, his statement entirely coinciding with that of Dr. Heaton; and finally, to corroborate his opinion, refers to the fact that, in a Manuscript Code, the work is found addressed to King Robert—Salernitanæ Scholæ, versus ad Regem Robertum.† Tiraboschi was of opinion that the Prince being at Salerno on his return from Palestine, the desire of the School to acquire a distinction with the accredited future King of England, was possibly the chief motive that induced the Professors of it to render him honour in this work, and probably he himself made the request. He at the same time declares that almost all the authors, and the most credited men amongst the modern, as Giannone, in his History of the Kingdom of Naples, and Friend, Hist. Med., edit. Venet., p. 147, give the same statement, adding another circumstance, that mentioned by Dr. Heaton, concerning the wounds, which, according to these two historians had degenerated into a perilous fistula, and for the cure of which the Duke of Normandy had applied to the Doctors of the said School: nor is the circumstance of his wife sucking the poison from the wound pretermitted, a circumstance which Gian-

* Edit. Venez. 1795, Vol. III., Lib. IV., Cap. vi. Medicina.
† MS. Bibl. Reg. Paris., 6941. Catal., Tom. IV. p. 295.

none adduces as an historical fact, with the only observation in a parenthesis (alcuni stimano favoloso questo racconto del suochiamento del veleno). Tiraboschi refuted this with solid reasons, but those who would refer to what Giannone has himself said upon this subject, will find a lengthened discussion in his history. Lib. X., cap. xi., Edit. Haia, 1753, 4to. Tom. II., pp. 119, et seq.

After all, it must not be forgotten, that Dr. Heaton's statement is found identical with that in the Preface to the work in question, not only in the Paris edition as quoted by him, but also, since it must be the same, in that printed at Rotterdam by Arnold Leers, in 1648, with the following title—Zachariæ Sylvii Præfatio in Scholam Salernitanam. In this edition, the title of the work is thus—Schola Salernitana: sive de Conservanda Valetudine Præcepta Metrica. Autore Joanne de Mediolano hactenus ignoto; cum luculenta et succincta Arnoldi Villanovani in singula Capita Exegesi. The chapter 'De Salvia,' in this edition, is the Sixtieth, not the Thirty-eighth, as in that quoted by Dr. Heaton.

The reasons advanced by Tiraboschi in refutation of the circumstance of the sucking of the poison, are two. The first is, that Oderico Vitale, a contemporary writer, Hist. Eccl. ad an. 1100; who while he makes great eulogiums of Duke Robert's wife, is wholly silent in respect of this celebrated action of conjugal love; nor was Tiraboschi able to find it mentioned by any ancient writer. The second reason is, that the School of Salerno, in the prescription for the cure of the fistula, which it is conjectured was added on this occasion, did not in any way allude to the sucking, not even in case of poison; which case they did not mention at all. The prescription, De curatione Fistulæ, Cap. lxxxiii. is as follows—

> Auripigmentum, sulphur miscere memento:
> His decet apponi calcem: conjunge saponi:
> Quatuor hæc misce; commixtis quatuor istis
> Fistula curatur, quater ex his si repleatur.

Bristol, August 28. F. S. Donato.

Numismata.—Some Remarks induced by the reverse of a Medal recently designed and engraved by Leonard Charles Wyon, of Her Majesty's Mint.

The Groupe is composed of three figures. In the centre and looking to her right stands Numismata, a dignified commanding Matron, extending her right hand in welcome to an animated lovely Damsel, who is pressing towards the Goddess, and represents Time Present, Youth in her Spring. With her left hand, Numismata withdraws a Curtain, and discloses an Old Man seated contemplatively on a Cube, (on which is engraved a Coin of Egina, from whence Coinage is considered to have originated.) The Sage is thus the Type of Time Past: of that World which has passed away, and to whose anxieties, exultations, fears, and hopes, we are the living acting representatives.

In this graceful and effective Groupe, Mr. Wyon, has idealized and personified the powers and purposes of Coinage, in its fullest extent of development, a Record of Past existence: a Diffusion of the Present.

Singular, as it may seem to us, the imaginative Greeks never approached the subject. The Romans have merely given us the justice of their Coinage, and the Moderns the machinery only of Coinage: the Spirit has been left with Hades. Whether our Saxon Wizard has really raised the Goddess from her sleep of ages, it is for the Priests of her Temple to declare, but at all events the Apparition is a very lovely one.

To enter more fully into the spirit of Mr. Wyon's personification, let us consider in reference to Time Present, how few of Queen Victoria's subjects have seen Her Majesty, yet thanks to the Coinage of Money and Medals, Her Majesty's Portrait, is as a Household Deity from London to Lahore! while through the same Power, the multitudinous Past, involving Empires, Sovereigns, and Events, remain an existing World to us; and will remain so, equally to interest and instruct unknown generations whose futurity is beyond the ken of our Divination.

These varied conceptions we think have been very happily embodied. The noble figure and graceful attitude of Numismata, her benign and intellectual countenance, and the magnificent flow of her drapery, uniting itself with the massive fall, and superb folds of the curtain, all contribute to indicate the presiding Deity; and then the loveliness of early Girlhood, with the elasticity of the youthful form of Time Present; constitute an imposing contrast, to the Antient of other days gravely quiescent, seated in the background, and in the now, light cheerful Damsel, there is the prospective promise, of good enduring stamina. All three attitudes are indeed characteristically significant and appropriate: the stationary unchanging Genius—Numismata, the immoveable tranquillity of Age, the progressive ardour of Youth, and the Present, with all its rose tinctured animating Future in prospect. The Past, with all its mingled sunshine and shadows in review, now—alike—neither enlivening nor depressing; and yet—alike—subjects of thought, comparison, and consideration. Combine all, and they are fully expressive of the Inscription—

Numismata Irradiating the Present: Restoring the Past.

Cork, Sept. 3. Richard Sainthill.

Cutler's poetry. In the privately printed Catalogue of the Museum of Thomas Bateman, Esq., at Lomberdale House, Derbyshire, now distributing to particular friends; at p. 191, is described "a clasp knife, of the time of Charles the Second," with a brass handle, in the shape of a leg with high heeled boot, inscribed:—

> Here is a leg and foot,
> With a good blade toot.

Will's Coffee House, at the north-west corner of Portugal Street, in Serle Street, closed finally at Midsummer last.

EARLY ENGLISH SONGS.

Thomas Ravenscroft, a celebrated composer, between the years 1609 and 1614, edited and published the following four musical works –

Pammelia: Musicks Miscellanie, or Mixed Varietie of Pleasant Roundelayes, etc., Printed for William Barley, 1609, 4to.

Deuteromelia: or the Second Part of Musicks Melodie, or Melodious Music of Pleasant Roundelayes; K. H. Mirth, or Freemen's Songs, etc. Printed for Thomas Adams, 1609, 4to.

Melismata: Musicall Phansies fitting the Court, City, and Country Humours, etc., 1611, 4to.

A Briefe Discourse of the True but neglected use of Charactering the Degrees [in Music]. Printed for Edward Allde, 1614, 4to.

These four brochures being amongst the most curious and rarest of their class, the readers of Current Notes will doubtless therefore not object to a few extracts from them of quaint old poetry—"choicely good," as Isaac Walton designates them; preceded by some few notices of Thomas Ravenscroft, of whom, in the Biographical Dictionaries of Musicians little is recorded.

From the few data observable in his works, it appears that Thomas Ravenscroft was born in 1592; that in due time he became a chorister in St. Paul's cathedral, and speaks of his tutor, Mr. Edmund Pearce, the Master of the Choristers, as 'a man of singular eminence in his profession.'

University degrees were formerly taken at an earlier age than at present, but Ravenscroft graduated at an unusually early age, and took the degree of Bachelor of Music, when not more than fourteen years old. The following laudatory lines, prefixed to his Briefe Discourse, allude more particularly to this precocity of talent. The third line has a punning allusion to his name—

Rara Avis arte senex juvenis; sed rarior est, si
Ætate est juvenis, moribus ille senex.
Rara avis est Author (pœne est pars nominis una)
Namque annis juvenis, moribus, arte senex.
Non vidit tria lustra puer, quia arte probatus,
Vitâ laudatus, sumpsit in arte gradum.
* * * *
Arte Senex, virtute senex, ætate adolescens
I bone, rara avis es, scribe, bonis avibus.

Ravenscroft dedicated his Briefe Discourse—'To the Right Worshipfull, most worthy Grave Senators, Guardians of Gresham College in London;' the reason being, as he says—I must and do acknowledge it as a singular help and benefit, that I have received divers Instructions, Resolutions, and Confirmations of sundry Points and Precepts in our Art, from the Musicke Readers of that most famous Colledge. Prefixed are panegyrical addresses by some of his most eminent musical contemporaries—John Dowland, Nathaniel Giles, Martin Peerson, and others, sufficiently confirmatory it was favourably countenanced by them.

In 1621, Ravenscroft published his Whole Booke of Psalmes, but from this period nothing is known respecting him, and it is supposed he was dead, when in 1633, the second edition of that book appeared.

From the dedication of his Melismata—'To the Right Worshipful, the true favourers of Musicke and all Virtue, Mr. Thomas Ravenscroft, and Mr. William Ravenscroft, *Esquires*, and the subscribing himself 'Your Worships affectionate Kinsman, T. R.;' it has been concluded this distinguished musician was of good family, and is supposed to have been possessed of independent property. The arms of the Ravenscroft family are Argent, a chevron between three ravens' heads erased, sable.

The late George Spencer, fourth Duke of Marlborough, presented in 1822, to the Members of the Roxburgh Club, a thin volume, entitled—Selections from the Works of Thomas Ravenscroft; but the distinguished editor, if so he may be called, seems not to have been aware the poetry of which his volume is mainly composed, was long anterior to the reign of King James the First, the period of Ravenscroft's various publications. Mr. Oliphant is justly severe upon the Duke's contribution. He observes—

I feel bound, as a faithful chronicler, to add, that in spite of exterior show, wide margins, pompous title pages, and expensive printing, his Grace's Presentation betrays on the part of its editor, or his assistants, the grossest ignorance of that which constitutes the chief value of the works in question, viz., the Music. The blunders made by them are truly ludicrous, and in fact, the whole is perfectly unintelligible, and worse than useless, inasmuch as it might lead people to suppose that the music of that period was a species of unknown tongue, an incomprehensible jargon. I am only sorry to think that the name of Bartleman, which I revere, should be handed down in the Preface as one of the assistants, for I do not believe that he could have been in any way accessory to such wilful murder upon a species of music that he admired so much, and with which, I speak from the authority of those who knew him well, few people were better acquainted.*

I differ in opinion from this writer, that the Music constitutes the chief value of the works in question; the poetry, I believe to be equally valuable, as I shall proceed to shew.

Pammelia, 1609, the first in date, consists of one hundred songs and ballads of various kinds, accompanied with the Music, a truly minstrel-like batch.

Hey hoe!
To the greenewood now let us goe:
Sing heave and hoe!
And there shall we finde
Both Buck and Doe;
The Hart and the Hinde,
And the little pretie Roe,
Sing heave and hoe!

The old dog, the jolly old dog,
As he lay in his den-a;
Huffa, buffa,
Trolilo, trolilo,
As he lay in his den-a.

---

* Musa Madrigalesca, 1837, 8vo. p. 257.

Now God be with old Simeon,
For he made Cans for many a one,
And a good old man was he.
And Jenkin was his journeyman,
He could tipple off every Can,
And thus hee said to mee:
To whom drink you?
Sir Knave, to you!
Then, hey hoe, jolly Jenkin,
I spye a knave in drinking—
Come trole the bole to mee.

Banbury Ale! where? where? where?
At the blacke-smith's house—
I would I were there!

Jacke boy, ho boy, Newes:*
The cat is in the well,
Let us sing now for her knell
Ding dong, ding dong, bell!

Come drink to me and I will drink to thee,
And then shall we full well agree:
I have loved the jolly tankerd,
Full seaven Winters and more;
I loved it so long
Till that I went upon the score.

He that loves not the tankerd
Is no honest man;
And he is no right souldier
That loves not the Can.

Tappe the Canikin, Toss the Canikin,
Trole the Canikin, Turne the Canikin—
Hold good sonne, and fill us a fresh can,
That we may quaffe it round about from man to man.†

Deuteromelia: or the Second Part of Musick's Melodie, is even more interesting than its predecessor. The terms K. H. Mirth, and Freemen's Songs, have occasioned some discussion. Mr. Oliphant observes—

It is supposed, the former stands for King Henry's Mirth, that is, Songs or Catches of a merry nature which were favourites with that jovial prince. I think it likely to be so, but am not aware of any thing either for or against the matter, except conjecture.

All doubt on the subject is however decided by the following extract from the Life of Sir Peter Carew, by John Vowell alias Hoker, of Exeter, printed in the twenty-eighth volume of the Archæologia.

From this time he [Sir Peter] continued for the most part in the Court, spending his time in all Courtly exercises to his great praise and commendation, and especially to the good liking of the King [Henry VIII.], who had a great pleasure in him, as well for his sundry noble qualities, as also for his singing, for the King himself being much delighted to sing, and Sir Peter Carew having a pleasant voice, would often use him to sing with him certain songs they call Freemen's Songs, as namely, By the bancke as I lay, and, As I walked the wode so wylde, etc.

Ritson had an inconceivably strange notion of Freemen being an error for Three-men, because Shakespeare speaks of Three-men Song-men, that is, men who would sing Songs of three parts; but if he had taken the trouble to examine the book in question, he would have also found there Freemen's Songs to four voices, which sets the matter at rest. Drayton, in his Legend of Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, makes that nobleman say—

Of Freemen's Catches to the Pope I sing,
Which wan much license to my countrymen;
Thither the which I was the first to bring,
That were unknown in Italy till then.

The work entitled Deuteromelia, contains thirty-two Songs and Catches, from which I have extracted the following.

Of all the birds that ever I see,
The Owle is the fayrest in her degree;
For all the day long she sits in a tree,
And when the night comes away flies she!
Te whit, te whoo!
Sir knave to thou.
This Song is well sung, I make you a vow,
And he is a knave, that drinketh now.
Nose, nose, nose, nose!
And who gave thee that jolly red nose?
Sinamont and ginger, nutmegs and cloves,
And that gave me my jolly red nose!*

To-morrow the Fox will come to towne,
Keepe, keepe, keepe, keepe, keepe;
To-morrow the Fox will come to towne,
O keepe you all well there.
I must desire you neighbours all,
To hollo the Fox out of the hall,
And cry as loud as you can call,
O keepe you all well there.

He'll steale the Cock out from his flock,
Keepe, keepe, keepe, keepe, keepe;
He'll steale the Cock e'en from his flock,
O keepe you all well there.
I must desire, etc.

* In Shakespeare's Taming of the Shrew, ascribed to 1606, is the following allusion to this catch or song—
Curtis. ——— good Grumio, the news?
Grumio. Why, Jack boy, ho boy, and as much news as thou wilt. Act IV. sc. 1.

† To these ballads Shakespeare alludes in his Othello, ascribed to the year 1611; Act II. sc. 3, when Iago calls, Some wine, ho!
And let me the canakin clink, clink;
And let me the canakin clink:
A soldier's a man,
A life's but a span;
Why then, let a soldier drink!

* That this was highly popular is evidenced by the fact, that in Beaumont and Fletcher's Knight of the Burning Pestle, a Comedy first printed in 1613, the last four lines of this song are quoted. Paul Bedford has of late rendered the words and air familiar to thousands.

He'll steale the Hen out of the pen,
Keepe, keepe, keepe, keepe, keepe!
He'll steale the Hen out of the pen,
O keepe you all well there.
I must desire, etc.

He'll steale the Duck out of the brook,
Keepe, keepe, keepe, keepe, keepe;
He'll steale the Duck out of the brook,
O keepe you all well there.
I must desire, etc.

He'll steale the Lamb e'en from his dam,
Keepe, keepe, keepe, keepe, keepe;
He'll steale the Lamb e'en from his dam,
O keepe you all well there.
I must desire you neighbours all,
To hollo the Fox out of the hall,
And cry as loud as you can call,
O keep you all well there.

In 1557-8, the first year of the Registers of the Stationers' Company, it is recorded John Wallye and Mrs. Toye had licence to print a ballad, called—

Who lyve so merry and make such sporte,
As thay that be of the poorest sort?

The following appears to have been the ballad there noticed.

Who liveth so merry in all this land
As doth the poor widow that selleth the sand?
Chorus. And ever she singeth as I can guess,
Will you buy any sand, any sand, Mistris?

The broome-man maketh his living most sweet,
With carrying of broomes from street to street;
Chorus. Who would desire a pleasanter thing,
Than all the day long to do nothing but sing?

The chimney-sweeper all the long day
He singeth and sweepeth the soote away;
Chorus. And when he comes home although he be weary,
With his sweet wife he maketh full merry.

The cobler he sits cobbling till noone,
And cobbleth the shoes till they be done;
Chorus. Yet doth he not feare and so doth say:
For he knows his work will soon decay.

The marchant-man doth saile on the seas,
And lye on the ship-board with little ease;
Chorus. Alwayes in doubt the rocke is neare,
How can he be merry and make good cheare?

The husband-man all day goeth to plow,
And when he comes home he serveth his sow;
Chorus. He moyleth and toyleth all the long yeare,
How can he be merry and make good cheare?

The serving-man waiteth frō street to street,
With blowing his nailes and beating his feet;
Chorus. And serveth for forty shillings a yeare,
That 'tis impossible to make good cheare.

Who liveth so merry and maketh such sport
As those that be of the poorer sort?
Chorus. The poorest sort, wheresoever they be,
They gather together by one, two and three;
And every man will spend his penny:
What makes such a shot among a great many?

EDWARD F. RIMBAULT.

INSCRIBED WALL RHYMES.

On the wall of what has long been termed "Queen Mary's Room," in Edinburgh Castle, were the following lines:—

Lord Jesus Christ, that crounit was with thorne,
Preserve the birth quheus Badgie heir is borne,
And send hir sonne successione to reigne still,
Lang in this realme, if that it be thy will!
Als grant O Lord, quhae euer of hir proceed,
Be to thy glorie, honor, and prais, so beid.
19 Junii, 1566.

James the Sixth of Scotland was born in that room, on the day noted at the foot of these rhymes. They were extant there in 1772, are they so now?

On a wall in the Abbey Church at Edinburgh were the following lines:—

Ah me! I grauel am, and dust,
And to the grave, return I must:
O painted piece of living clay,
Man, be not proud of thy short day.
1646.

The words in italic are anagrammatical of William Grahame. J. F.

BROOMES, NEW BROOMES!

In the old drama entitled the Three Ladies of London, printed in 1584, 4to., is the following poetical cry of a vender of heath brooms in the happy days of Good Queen Bess.

Enter Conscience* with broomes at her back, singing as followeth.

New broomes, green broomes, will ye buy any?
Come Maidens, come quickly, let me take a peny.

My broomes are not steeped
But very well bound:
My broomes be not crooked,
But smooth cut and round.
I wish it would please ye,
To buy of my broome;
Then would it well ease me,
If market were done.

Have you any olde bootes,
Or any old shoone:
Powch-ringes or buskins,
To cope for new broome?
If so ye haue Maydens
I pray you bring hether,
That you and I frendly
May bargen together.

New broomes, greene broomes, will ye buy any?
Come Maidens, come quickly, let me take a peny.

The broom-seller of the reigns of Charles the Second and James the Second, is one of the illustrations of Marcellus Lauron's London's Cries, engraved and published by Pierce Tempest in 1688.

* "Conscience was not a Broome-man in Kent Street." Harl. Miscell., Vol. V. p. 379.

UNICORN AS BORNE IN HERALDRY.

In Robson's Glossary of Heraldry, the Unicorn as used in armorial bearings is described as an imaginary animal, represented as having the head, neck and body of a horse, the legs of a buck, the tail of a lion, and a long horn growing out of the middle of the forehead.

The Rev. Sloane Evans in his excellent Grammar of Heraldry, speaking of the Unicorn, says it is the symbol of strength of body and virtue of mind. It also denotes extreme courage and well befits the Warrior who had rather die than fall into the hand of the enemy.

The Rhinoceros, it may be remarked, has been frequently supposed to be an equally proper translation for the Hebrew word translated 'Unicorn' in the Scriptures,

F. R. N. H.

INVOCATION OF THE VIRGIN ON TOMBS.

The reason why so few monumental inscriptions in which the prayers of the Virgin were asked, are now extant is easily understood. The first Protestants evinced a more violent antipathy to the reverence paid by the Catholic Church to the Saints, than to any other article of the faith. Before the Reformation they were without doubt very common: no one can have read any of the literature of England of a date anterior to the change of religion, without having observed the great reverence Englishmen then showed to the Mother of God, and how ecclesiastic and layman, bishop and priest, noble and peasant, vied with each other in giving her honour. The popular devotions, the dedication of churches, the formularies of wills, and the songs of the poets are all evidence of this love for

Oure blessed Lady Christes Mother dere.

Those who are curious in this matter, will find much to interest them in Dr. Rock's Church of our Fathers vol. iii. pp. 241-346; from which work the following are extracted.

Sancta Trinitas unus Deus miserere nobis
Et ancillis tuis sperantibus in te,
O mater Dei memento mei.
Jesu mercy, Lady help.

Mary moder, mayden clere,
Prey for me William Goldwyre:
And for me Isabel his wyf,
Lady, for thy joyes fyf.
Hav mercy on Christian his second wyf,
Swete Jesu, for thy wowndys fyf.

On the grave-brass of William Berdewell, in West Harling Church, he is figured with a scroll proceeding from his mouth, bearing this invocation to Christ:—

Jesu fili Dei miserere mei!

while a similar scroll from his wife implores—

Sancta Dei genetrix ora pro me!

Bottesford, August 30. EDWARD PEACOCK.

INVOCATION TO THE VIRGIN.

Over the outer arch of the porch of Farleigh-Hungerford Church, co. Somerset, built by Walter Lord Hungerford, and consecrated on St. Leonard's day, Nov. 6, 1443; is a semi-circular stone, on which is cut a small cross, and under it, two Latin hexameter verses—

+

MVNIAT HOC TEMPLV̄ CRVCE GLO-
RIFICANS MICROCOSMV̄: Q̄ GENVIT
XPM MISERIS PCE FIAT ASILVM.

which without the abbreviations, may be read thus—

Muniat hoc templum cruce glorificans microcosmum:*
Quæ genuit Christum miseris prece fiat asylum.

* Critics in prosody will not fail to observe that the i, in microcosmum, is improperly shortened. The word Microcosm, compounded of two Greek words, signifying 'little' and 'world,' is found frequently among the old writers in the sense of Man. Thomas Thorney, in some verses addressed to the author, Gerard's Herbal 1597, folio; so uses it:—

Oft have I heard and oft have read
In bookes of learned lore,
That man the name of 'Little World,'
Or 'Microcosmos,' bore.

So Bastard in his Chrestoleros, 1598, 4to. has the following epigram:—

De Microcosmo.

Man is a little world, and beares the face
And picture of the universitie:
All but resembleth God, all but his glasse,
All but the picture of his Majestie.
Man is the little world (so we him call)
The world the little god—GOD, the great all!

Falstaff, in Shakespeare's King Henry IV. part II. act iv. sc. 3. says of good sherris sack—It illumineth the face, which as a beacon gives warning to all the rest of this little kingdom, man, to arm.

John Davies of Hereford, in his poem entitled, Microcosmos; or Discovery of the Little World, 1603, 4to., observes:—

So in our little world, this soul of our's,
In whom we do this world's abridgement see.

John Earle, successively bishop of Winchester and Salisbury, wrote a moral work that has passed through many editions entitled, Microcosmography; a piece of the World discovered, in Essays and Characters, first printed in 1628.

Sir Thomas Browne, in his well known Religio Medici, says—'For the world, I count it not an Inn, but an Hospital; a place not to live, but to die in. The world that I regard is myself; it is the 'microcosm' of my own frame that I cast my eye on. I study to find out how I am a 'microcosm,' a little world.

Later, Nathaniel Wanley compiled a volume, of which the title as 'Wanley's Wonders' is a household word to thousands; entitled, Wonders of the Little World, or a General History of Man, it was first printed in 1678, folio.

In the Gentleman's Magazine, 1794, p. 599, is the following poetical version of this inscription.

May He whose Cross for man has glory won,
Far from this Church all harm remove;
And may Her prayers who calls that Saviour son,
A refuge to the wretched prove!

The Rev. John Edward Jackson, now rector of Leigh Delamere, co. Wilts, in his Guide to Farleigh-Hungerford, has this prose translation—

May He who by the Cross glorifies man, protect this Church, and may the mother of Christ become an asylum to the wretched, by *her* prayer *for them*.

The first line of the Latin verses alludes to the Saviour, the second to the Virgin Mary. The prayer contained in the former of the verses seems to be a reference to the words of St. Paul.

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the *suffering of death*, crowned with glory and honour; that He, by the grace of God, should taste death for every man. For it became Him from whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in *bringing* many sons *into glory*, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.—Hebr. ch. ii., v. 9, 10.

The allusion to the Intercession of the Virgin Mary, expressed in the latter hexameter will be accounted for by bearing in mind, that at the time when this stone was placed here, the national religion was that of Rome.

ANCIENT EPITAPHIAL INSCRIPTIONS.

At South Morton, Berkshire.

Sub jacet ecce pede RICARDUS MORUS, in ede
Kene, qui discretus fuit ampla pace quietus.
C quater et Mille, quater et bis sex obit ille,
Luceque sexta ter Junii, fit hujus sibi mater;
Fecit plura loco, bona sunt suffragia pro quo.
Post Christiana sua vita subit ad relevamen,
Quos Manus alma tua salvet, precor, O Deus! Amen.

At White Waltham, Berkshire.

Jhesu Mercy.
Hic jacet MARGARETA quondam
Uxor JOHANNIS HILLE que obiit 12
Die mens. Julii Anno Dni Millo.
cccccxlvo.
Cujus anime propitietur Deus.
Amen.
Lady helpe!

At East Horsley, Surrey.

Quisquis eris, qui transieris,
Sta, perlege, plora.
Sum quod eris, fueramque quod es:
Pro me, precor, ora.
Hic jacet JOHANNES BOOTHE, quondam
Episcopus Exonien. qui obiit I. die
Mensis Aprilis Ao. Dni Mcccclxxviij.

These are copied literatim.
Hawkshead, Sept. 5. D. B. H.

UNIVERSALITY OF THE NEWSPAPER.

Compare the Orator with the Newspaper, and a faint glimpse of the pre-eminently ubiquitous power of the latter may be obtained. The Orator addresses himself to and may be heard by a few hundreds, possibly thousands, but the newspaper may be and is perused by millions. Evanescently the words of the Orator pass into the air and are no more heard—the language of the Newspaper stamped on the widely spread tablet remains almost imperishable. The arguments of the Orator may follow in such rapid succession, that by the majority of the audients they are not comprehended, and their convincing or persuasive tendencies are lost; the reasoning of the Newspaper, without fear of perplexity may be scanned at leisure, each point tells, and the reader's determinative faculties are arrested in full force. The passion of the Orator may excite an assembly, but the feeling imparted by the newspaper electrifies a continent, nay the globe itself. The Orator is for an edifice, the Newspaper is for the world—the one has existence for an hour, the other lives for all time. The Orator may be compared to the lightning, the vividity of which flashes for a moment, but again on the instant leaves all in darkness; while the Newspaper is like the sun, diffusing its light over the whole earth, brightening the wide expanse, and fixing on the basis of its own eternity. Printing has been happily defined 'the art which preserves all arts;' printing makes the Orator himself more than an Orator! it seizes and embodies his dying words, breathes into them the breath of vitality, and they live when even the corporeal reality of the speaker has ceased to be. The Newspaper is the speaking gallery through which the Orator peals diffusely his thunder in the ear of ages, and thus though silent in the tomb, becomes the Mentor over the cradle of rising generations.

CHARLES THE FIRST AND HENRIETTA MARIA.

Carolus Henriettæ nuper sociata Mariæ
Quæ mare disjungit littora junxit Amor.

Where is this confused distich to be found? It seems to be an inscription under the portraits of the King and Queen.

Hawkshead, Sept. 7. D. B. H.

SCOTTISH IRON 'YETS' OR GATES.

The licence to Ogilvy of Inverquharity, to strengthen his house 'with ane Irne yet,' noticed at p. 62, of Current Notes, has a priority of date than there stated. Alexander Ogilvy named in the document, was living from 1434 to 1482, the licence has therefore reference to the seventh year of either king James the II. or III. if of the former, the year would be 1444, or of the latter, with greater probability 1467.

These iron gates, which superseded the *portecoulisse* of an earlier period were evidently from the tone of the licence, the usual security attached to the castles and mansions in Scotland in the fifteenth century.

W. E.

ABERDEENSHIRE BENEFACTIONS.

Affixed to the kirk-yard wall of Foot Dee or Futtee, in Aberdeen, is the following record of the liberality of a descendant of the heroic Sir Robert Davidson, "provost of braif Aberdeen," who fell at the battle of Harlaw in 1411.

GEORGE DAVIDSONE ELDER BVRGES OF ABD.
BIGIT THIS DYK ON HIS OVIN EXPENSES, 1650.

Below are the arms of Davidson, a fess, three peons in chief, a stag lodged in base, and the initials G. D.

In Monteith's Theater of Mortality, and in all subsequent works in which this inscription has been noticed, the reading is erroneously rendered thus:

George Davidsone elder civis aberdonensis,
biggit thir church-yard dyke upon his own expenses.

George Davidson, proprietor of the lands of Pettens and Bogfairlie in Belhelvy, distinguished himself by other acts of munificence for the public good. Besides building the kirk-yard wall of Futtee, he erected and endowed the church of Newhills, built the bridge of Bruxburn, and endowed several schools, these benefactions being wholly in Aberdeenshire. He died a bachelor in 1663.

Brechin, Sept. 3. A. J.

CROFT'S MUSICA SACRA.

Lowndes in his Bibliographer's Manual, p. 511, to the notice of Dr. Croft's Musica Sacra, or Select Anthems in score, 1724, folio, appends this remark:—

A splendid edition published by subscription. The first work that was stamped on pewter plates, and in score. This work published anonymously, contains the words of Select Anthems used in the Chapel Royal, Westminster Abbey, St. Paul's, etc., with a Preface containing a short Account of our Church Music, and an Encomium on Tallis and Bird.

The bibliographer is here wholly in error. The work is engraved *not stamped on pewter plates*, the claim is only that of its being the first collection of Church music so produced—types having been previously used for that purpose. The Musica Sacra consists of Anthems, with the music in score, wholly composed by Dr. Croft; the reference therefore to the anonymously published words of Select Anthems, *without* the Music, attributed as editor to Dr. Croft, is wholly to a different work, thus entitled:—

Divine Harmony; or a New Collection of Select Anthems used at Her Majesty's Chappels Royal, Westminster Abbey, St. Pauls, Windsor, both Universities, Eaton, and most Cathedrals in Her Majesty's Dominions. Designed for the use of such as attend Choir Service, etc. Printed and sold by S. Keble, at the Turk's Head in Fleet Street, 1712, 8vo.

The Preface noticed by Lowndes, and the Encomium on Tallis and Bird, are prefixed to this volume, not to the Musica Sacra, 1724.

EDWARD F. RIMBAULT.

SPES ET FORTUNA VALETE.

The following monumental inscriptions are based upon the sentiments embodied in the old Greek epigram, recently noticed in Current Notes. The first is in the chancel of Mickleham church, Surrey.

Here lyeth buried under this stone the Body of John Stydolf, Esq. which deceased the 8th day of May, in the Yere of our Lord, a thousand five hundred seventy-six.

Inveni portum, spes et fortuna valete,
Nil mihi vobiscum, ludite nunc alios.
Quocumque ingrederitur, sequitur mors
Corporis umbram.

The other, is at Kingston-upon-Thames.

Lata locus mihi porta necis sic porta valeto:
Lata per angustam non placet ire viam.
Intravi angustam (si fas sit dicere) portam,
Porta vale, (fas sit dicere,) lata vale.
Inveni portum letum, dum lata per orbem
Non via nec firmum porta decere locum.

The foregoing are copied literatim.

Hawkshead, Sept. 5. D. B. H.

FREDERICK THE GREAT.

In Current Notes, 1854, p. 18, a former correspondent has forwarded some interesting particulars of the dispersion of Frederick the Great's scanty wardrobe, and as early Exhibition Bills, are generally deemed matters of curiosity, I enclose the following.

Oxford, Sept. 8. J. M. B.

THE Nobility, Gentry, and the Public in general, are hereby respectfully informed, that the THREE CELEBRATED FIGURES, (which are made in the original mould taken off the real face of the late

Illustrious KING of PRUSSIA,

Will be Sold by Auction,

By Mr. CHRISTIE,

On SATURDAY, the 19th instant, at two o'clock, at No. 4, Cockspur-street,

Together with the identical dresses he last wore.—Likewise his field bed-stead, sword, cane, etc.—All of which are authenticated by undoubted authority.

To be seen till the time of sale, as usual, at No. 4, Cockspur-street, bottom of the Hay-market.

Admittance One Shilling,

Cockspur-street, May 15, 1787.

PRIOR'S CHLOE.

On the fly leaf of a presentation copy in morocco of Prior's Poems, printed for Tonson, 1709, 8vo., inscribed to "Eliz. Rowney junior," are the following lines—

I read with pleasure what fond Prior says
In softest verse unto his fair Cloe's praise,
But know his Images far exceed what's true—
Such could be justly said of none but you.

E. NOEL.

ERRATA.—P. 53, col. 1, line 8 from foot, for SAIR read CAIR. l. 7, for SPEIR read SPAIR. P. 54, l. 1, for wall read well. P. 63, col. 1, l. 16 from foot, for pingi read jungi; l. 10, for adpingi read adjungi; and l. 9, for alius read aliis.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LVIII.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [OCTOBER, 1855.

NUREMBERG MASK FOR PUNISHMENT.

HAVING in previous numbers of Current Notes given several illustrations of the former uses of implements of punishment and torture, as applied to females under the appellation of Branks or Scold's-bridles; the following may possibly afford some interest, from its having been in the olden time chiefly employed for the correction of minor offences committed by men, by exciting ridicule against the wearer; and for such purpose was frequently placed on the heads of soldiers for breaches of discipline.

It is formed of bands of iron, which fold over the head and are fastened behind by a padlock. A pair of asses ears are placed on the sides, and spectacles attached to the face; a double plate closes over the mouth, and a whistle passes up the nostril, which, should the wearer attempt to speak, produces a loud sound. The mask is painted in flesh colour, the eyebrows and ears are shaded with dark grey, and a mouth is delineated upon the plate covering the lower part of the face.

During the last year it was obtained from the old castle at Nuremberg by Mr. Fairholt, and from him has passed to Lord Londesborough. It is engraved in the recently published sixth part of the Miscellanea Graphica, an admirably conducted work, devoted to the illustration of Lord Londesborough's Collection of Antiquities, and which the Editor would unequivocally yet respectfully commend to the reader's notice.

SCHOLA SALERNITANA.

Much interested with the various contributions to Current Notes on the question to whom the Schola Salernitana was really dedicated, I have been greatly pleased to find the subject, though medical, has been one of general interest. Some years since, I purchased for a mere trifle an old edition of the Aphorisms of Hippocrates, with comments on Galen, Heurnius, and Fuchsius, having bound in the same volume, an early manuscript translation of the Schola Salernitana, in which, on examination are some verses, which do not appear in any printed copy to which I have had access. I have the translation by the famous Dr. Philemon Holland, 1617, and a similar one dated 1609. I have also referred to Sir Alexander Croke's and to other editions. At this moment, the most interesting portion are the introductory lines, which in my opinion settles the question as to the "England's King," noticed immediately after, in the leading verse of the poem:

This worke yclept the flowre of Medicine,
Compilde at first in verses Leonine,
By Iohn of Millaine, Doctor of Salerne;
But by th' whole colledge as yᵉ great concerne
Was dedicate to Robert heire o' the crowne
Of England, (thogh Henry helde it as his own;)
On his return from conquerde Palestine,
Th' eleven hundredth yeare of Xᵗ divine.

Dr. Friend, in his History of Medicine, states this work was compiled about the year 1100, and made so great a noise in that and succeeding ages as to be thought worthy the comments of Arnoldus de Villa Nova. After all, the ancients like the moderns worshipped the rising characters of the age, and it is therefore not at all improbable, that it was at first dedicated to EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, as he had the repute of admiring foreign in preference to native talent, and on every opportunity proved that partiality; but that after his death, when Robert the son of William the Conqueror, on his way from Palestine sought refuge in Salerno, it is natural to suppose that the eldest son of a powerful monarch, and one who had honoured their college by consulting the professors on the subject of his own ailments, would afford occasion for the dedicatory lines to him. This conjecture is further confirmed by the additional verses on Fistula, to which complaint it is said Duke Robert was then subject.

An imitation of this poem was written by Ægidius, archiater to Philip Augustus, at the close of the Twelfth century. This Ægidius was a Benedictine monk, and his subject, the Virtues of Medicines, and on Urines and Pulse, in hexameter verses without regard to syllables;

he calls Galen and Constantine too prolix, and Philaretus too short.

In conclusion, I may state, the Translation of the Schola Salernitana contains ninety-seven verses, and is worthy a closer examination. The differences of this Manuscript when compared with the printed editions are numerous, and I am inclined to think, that it is a fuller copy of the original than any printed one; and if not too long I should like to see it printed in Current Notes, with all its peculiarities of style.

Manchester, Sept. 27. CHARLES CLAY, M.D.

EDWARD THE FIRST, THE "REX ANGLORUM."

After the lapse of so many ages, it is extremely difficult, or rather impossible to determine who was the Rex Anglorum noticed in John of Milan's curious medical work entitled Schola Salernitana. History is totally silent on the subject; to name therefore any particular king, as the patron of that once celebrated school, can only be a matter of conjecture.

In a former number of Current Notes, p. 60, I mentioned Edward the Confessor solely on the authority of two eminent and indefatigable antiquaries and historians, Muratori and Gibbon; but having now carefully considered the subject, I do not find any historical fact to favour either Muratori's conjecture, or Tiraboschi's assertion. The latter cites a manuscript which he appears never to have seen, stating actually, as he says, that the work in question was addressed to Robert the Second, Duke of Normandy—di fatto al Re Roberto indiritta. He does not quote directly from the manuscript, but from the Catal. Cod. MSS., Bibl. Regiæ Paris., Vol. IV. page 294, where he found the title—

6941. Salernitanæ Scholæ Versus ad Regem Robertum.

The compiler of the Catalogue was doubtless led into error by the romancing preface of Zacharie Dubois, or, Zacharias Sylvius, as he designates himself in the Paris edition of 1627. The statement also, that Guaimar, prince of Salerno, invited the Normans into Italy, is a pure fiction, as this prince's eyes were put out in 896. 'I Normanni,' *i.e.* the Danes and Norwegians had invaded Italy so early as the time of Charlemagne, about 812; but the descendants of Rollo and his followers, the Normans, properly so called, who with their swords made their way into Apulia and afterwards into Sicily, did not obtain any footing in Italy prior to 1008. Their history, and that of Tancred and his twelve sons, and especially of his third son, Robert Guiscard, is too long to be inserted here. Rollo himself was not settled in Normandy before the year 912.

Bossi, who in his elaborate and learned work, the Istoria d'Italia Antica e Moderna, printed in 19 volumes, 1819-23, 8vo., continually cites Muratori, Giannone, and Tiraboschi, and frequently notices the School of Salerno, makes no mention whatever of the words 'Versus ad Regem Robertum,' said to be seen *ipso facto* in the Paris Manuscript, but in Vol. XIV. lib. 4, cap. 28, §6., says the School of Salerno was already celebrated in the Tenth Century, and frequented by patients from France and Spain, although Tiraboschi doubts the fact; Bossi however in support of his assertion, refers to Vitalis, a writer of the Twelfth Century, who affirms that that school was established two centuries before his time. What follows will best appear in his own words, and will correct a former erroneous conjecture of mine.

Gratuita è pure l'asserzione del Tiraboschi, che quella scuola molto dovesse alle opere di Costantino Africano; come è assai dubbio il fatto, ammesso anche dal Giannone, che risvegliato fosse in quella città ed in que' popoli lo studio della medicina a cagione dei molti libri di quell' arte in quelle provincie recati dai Saraceni, etc. Della scuola Salernitana sono tuttora celebri i precetti per conservare la sanità, indirizzati al Re d Inghilterra, o *forse* a Roberto di Normandia, pretendente a quella corona; e come già da me si accennò nel § 4. compilati furono que' precetti in versi da Maestro Giovanni da Milano, detto dottore egregio di medicina, come da un antico *codice* si raccoglie.

The circumstances mentioned in favour of Duke Robert's claim as the patron of the medical school of Salerno, are not supported by any recorded fact in History; on the contrary, they seem to point to King EDWARD THE FIRST, as the 'Rex Anglorum,' the intended Royal personage. Prince Edward embarked at Portsmouth, in May, 1270, and thence passed through France, Italy and Sicily, on his way to Palestine. On June 17, in the following year, he was wounded by an assassin, with a poisoned dagger, the venom of which was extracted by his wife, the Princess Eleanor, who, by sucking the wound effected a cure, which medicine could not effect. His father, King Henry the Third, died Nov. 16, 1272, and Edward though absent was soon after proclaimed King. In the spring of 1273, Edward, on his way homeward, landed in Sicily, where he was honourably received at the court of Charles the First, Earl of Anjou and Provence, and King of Naples and Sicily, and there first heard of his father, King Henry's death. After a short stay here, he was conducted by Charles to the Roman court, where, with his familiar friend, Pope Gregory the Tenth, King Edward the First spent some time, and thence passed into Burgundy. We next find him at the French Court, where he was received with distinguished honours by his cousin King Philip the Third, to whom Edward did homage for his hereditary lands, and received formal possession of them. Having visited other parts of France, he embarked for England, and landed at Dover, on August 2, 1274, and was crowned at Westminster, on the Sunday after the feast of the Assumption, being the 19th of that month in the same year.

In 1282, Pedro of Arragon, in right of his wife, having claimed the crown of Sicily, the dispute, it was agreed, Charles and he should determine by single combat, at Bordeaux, in the presence of King Edward the First, as Umpire; but on the day appointed,* and while

* Easter-day, 1282, the first bell at Vespers being the signal for the massacre. The Papists in this, and in that of St. Bartholomew, 1572, appear to have had no hesitation in appropriating the hour of the observance of their religious

Charles awaited his arrival, Pedro seized upon the kingdom of Sicily, and perpetrated that horrible massacre of the French, men, women, and children, eternised in history as 'the Sicilian Vespers.' Shortly after, Charles Prince of Salerno, son of the King of Naples, was taken prisoner by Pedro, and closely confined till 1285, when he was ransomed by King Edward for the sum of thirty thousand silver marks; and became Charles the Second, King of Naples.

See Echard's History of England; Heylyn's Cosmography, Sicily and Naples; and Bossi, vol. XV. c. 11.

Hawkshead, Oct. 8. D. B. H.

The library of the recently deceased Duke of Genoa, consisting chiefly of works on Military Science, and among them more than four hundred volumes of Manuscripts, in the Italian and other languages, is by order of the Duchess, being made available for the use of the public, to whom the library is to be opened on January 1, 1856.

JACOBITE MEMENTOES.

David Lord Ogilby, afterwards fourth Earl of Airly, joined the Stuart cause at Edinburgh, in October, 1745, at the head of a regiment of six hundred men, principally his own friends and retainers from the County of Forfar. Lord Ogilby's regiment took an active part at the battle of Culloden, which proved so disastrous to the interest of the Chevalier, and Lady Ogilby equally as loyal as her husband accompanied him to the battle field, where she was taken prisoner and conducted to Edinburgh Castle, from which in the course of a few months she escaped. The silver drinking cup, and the sword worn by Lord Ogilby at Culloden, commemorative spoils of that bloody conflict, are now in the possession of Mr. James Dickson, Distributor of Stamps, at Kirriemuir. The cup bears the arms of Ogilby of Airly, and the sword has the following inscriptions in French and German:—

Si la Fortune me tourmente.
L' Esperance me contente.

Wer nicht lust hat zu Schönen pferds,
Ein blanckes Schweerdt,
Ein Schines Weib,
Hat kien Soldaten herts in Lieb.

The latter may be thus rendered—

Who has not pleasure in fine horses,
In a bright Sword,
And beautiful Woman,
Has no Soldier's heart in his body.

Brechin, Oct. 8. A. J.

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faith, as fitting opportunities for the perpetration of the most atrocious inhumanities.—Ed.

HORNBOOK OF THE OLDEN DAY.

——— Most venerable Code!
Learning's first cradle and its last abode.

Hornbooks are now so completely superseded by the Battledore, and the various forms of Reading made Easy, that they are rarely met with, and few persons believe that such was formerly the means adopted to teach the infantine ideas how to shoot. In manuscripts of the fourteenth and fifteenth Centuries, a nearly similar mode of disposition of the contents of the Horn-book may occasionally but rarely be met with; the alphabet being in all instances seen by the writer preceded by the +, hence the alphabet thus disposed was called "the Cris Cros," or Christ Cross Row.* Some writers state it was so designated because a cross was prefixed to the alphabet in the old primers; but as probably from a superstitious custom of writing the alphabet in the form of a +, by way of charm; a custom which has been solemnly practised by bishops in the consecration of churches.†

The Primer (Primarius, Lat.) was a small book of prayers in which children were taught to read, so named from the Romish book of Devotions, which King Henry VIII., in 1545, ordered to be printed in English, and "set furth by the Kinges Majestie and his Clergie, to be taught, lerned and red." This gave the name of

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* On the introduction of printing, other and imposing forms of inducing children to learn were adopted by monkish instructors, as in the instance of the block printed sheet, entitled Propugnacula, seu Turris Sapientiæ; the Bulwark, or Tower of Knowledge. Such broadsides were doubtless in the fifteenth century in common use in monasteries and schools. The so named Propugnacula, has its appellation on the left upper corner, printed in the form of a Tower; the alphabet in capitals, ascends by way of moral sentences, thus the following is the last line but one on the foundation of the Tower—

A. Fundamentum Turris Sapientiæ et Humilitas que est Mater Virtutum.

On the turrets are the words, Innocencia, Puritas, Timor Dei, Caritas, Continencia and Virginitas. These sheets subsequently obtained the name of a. b. c.'s, and more recently under that title, various admonitory publications addressed to children of a larger growth emanated from the press. Among them—

An A. B. C. to the Christian congregation,
Or a patheway to the heavenly habitation;

a broadside to which the name of Thomas Knell is subscribed, with—Imprynted at London by Rycharde Kele. No date is attached, but Kele's last known dated production is of the year 1552.

Quite in accordance with the dictum of Dr. Watts,—

A verse may catch him who a sermon flies;

admonitory rhymes, called ballads or ballates, were also similarly so named, and in 1557, John Wallye or Waley in Foster-lane, and Mistress Toye, had licence from the Stationers' Company to print a ballad of "the a. b. c. of a preste called Huegh Sturmey;" and another entitled "the Aged Man's a. b. c."

† Picart's Religious Ceremonies, vol. I. p. 131.

the Primer to elementary guides of a similar purport with the Hornbook.

From Christ Cross Row, probably for shorter pronunciation, it became popularly the Cross Row.* Robert Wyer was the printer of a poetical production, in seven line stanzas, entitled—The Mayden's Crosse Rowe, ending with Finis qd. Robert Wyer; a termination which probably implied Wyer was not only the printer but also the author. In 1569, Thomas Colwell had lycense for the pryntinge of a Newe Yeres Gyfte, or a New Christe-crosse Roo, called Purge the old Lavyn that yt may be Newe doo.†

Heywood in his Six Hundred of Epigrammes, 1562, 4to., has one "of the letter H," in which he asserts—

H is worst among letters in the Crosse-row.‡

Shakespeare in his Richard the Third, 1597, Act 1, sc. 1, makes Clarence complain to Gloucester, because his name is George; the King

— Hearkens after prophecies and dreams,
And from the cross-row plucks the letter G;
And says, a wizard told him that by G
His issue disinherited should be.

Florio defines the word "*Centurubla*, a childes horne-booke hanging at his girdle." This should be good authority, for Shakespeare in his Love's Labour Lost, 1598, has in Holofernes characterised Florio, and in Act V. sc. 1, makes Moth assert to Armado—"he teaches boys the horn-book." The French *La Croix par Dieu*, Cotgrave defines as "the Christs-crosse-rowe, or horne-booke wherein a child learnes it."

Ben Jonson in allusion to the horn-book, makes Corvino, in his Volpone, 1605, while referring to the alleged infidelities of Celia towards her husband, point to his head, and exclaim—

Here
The letters may be read, through the horn,
That make the story perfect.

Act IV. sc. 2.

* Johnson in explanation says, the first line is the cross-row, so named because a cross is placed at the beginning, to show that the end of learning is piety. Grose, who fattened on the jocoseries of antiquarianism, has recorded a somewhat similar definition. An Irishman explaining the reason why the alphabet is called the Criss-cross Row, said it was because Christ's cross was prefixed at the beginning and end of it. Olio, 1798, p. 195.

† Kemble might have adduced this among his authorities for the pronouncing ache, a pain, as the letter H.

‡ The Horn-book is depicted in paintings by continental artists in the sixteenth Century. In one, painted by Bartolommeo Schidoni born in 1560, and who died in 1616; known as the Horn-book, and formerly in the Ashburnham Gallery, the girl holds the horn-book with the handle upwards, possibly her task was ended. In another painted by Crespi, and known as the School-mistress, the matron has the horn-book placed before the child, resting on her knee, and with her finger points to the letter she requires to be named.

The wire, stick or straw, that served to point to the letters which the child learning the alphabet was required to name, was called "a fescue;" and on early marked dials the figure XII or noon, was supplied by a cross; to this there is a humourous allusion in the Puritan, 1607—

Fall to your business roundly; the fescue of the dial is upon the Christ-cross of noon.

Decker's Gull's Horn-book, 1609, was a satirical guide or rather censure of the fashionable follies of the Town.

Peacham, in his Worth of a Penny, states—

For a penny you may buy the hardest book in the World, and which at some time or other hath posed the greatest Clerks in the World; viz., a Horn-book—the making up of which book employeth above thirty Trades.

A Mr. T. Playtes issued a prospectus of a Horn-book for the Remembrance of the Signs of Salvation, in Twelve volumes, 8vo., with Three hundred and Sixty-Five thousand references, or one thousand for every day in the year!

Locke in his Thoughts upon Education, printed in 1693, speaks of the ordinary road of the hornbook and primer; and in most of the shop-lists of the chap-book publishers at this period, they are enumerated for the hawkers, or flying-stationers, with Bibles, Testaments, Concordances, spelling books, primers, horn-books; writing-paper, paper books, and marriage certificates on parchment stamped.

Shenstone, born in 1714, in his delightfully quaint poem entitled 'The Schoolmistress,' commemorates the venerable preceptress of the dame school, near Hales Owen in Shropshire, in which as a child he was taught the rudiments of the horn-book—

Lo! now with state, she utters her command,
Eftsoons the urchins to their tasks repair;
Their books of stature small they take in hand
Which with pellucid horn secured are,
To save from finger wet the letters fair.

The alphabet on a square piece of gingerbread, formerly among the articles sold at Fun's Saturnalia, Bartholomew Fair, appears to have been commonly in use more than a century and a half since. Prior, in his *Alma*, notices

To Master John the English maid,
A horn-book gives, of gingerbread;
And that the child may learn the better,
As he can name, he eats the letter.*

The Catalogue of the British Museum Library describes a "Horn-book the Alphabet, Syllabarum, Lord's Prayer, etc., *written* in black letter of the type and orthography employed in the first half of the sixteenth century. Press mark 828 a 55." This description is very questionable. In Halliwell's Notices of Fugitive Tracts, printed for the Percy Society, he describes a

* Canto II. Works, Edit. 1721, vol. ii. p. 64.

horn-book of the assumed date of 1570?, with a woodcut representation, pp. 30-31.

In the Museum of Thomas Bateman, Esq., of Youlgrave, Derbyshire, is a horn-book, discovered in the wall of an old house at Middleton, in March 1828. On the front, printed on paper, is the alphabet, etc., as shown in the woodcut—

affixed to a thin piece of oak with a short handle, and protected "to save from finger wet the letters fair," by a piece of transparent horn, secured by small tacks. An equestrian figure of King Charles the First, with the crown of martyrdom, embossed on leather constitutes the back, and when first found, a narrow strip of thin brass was attached to the edge of the horn.

It was probably a Royalist Memorial disseminated soon after the decapitation of that Monarch, January 30, 1649. The initials T. H. were possibly placed there in compliment to Sir Thomas Herbert, a devoted servant of King Charles the First.

The woodcut illustrations are of the same size with the original horn-book.

Mr. Westwood at a meeting of the Archæological Institute, June 1, 1849, exhibited three horn-books. One of the time of Charles the First; another with a figure of Charles the Second, and the third, an "abece" of later date, not covered with horn but varnished.* Two of these horn-books were again exhibited at a meeting of the Archæological Institute, in the Museum of the Taylor Gallery, at Oxford, in the following year. They were there understood to belong to the collection of Sir Thomas Phillips, of Middle Hill, Broadway, Worcestershire.

* Archæological Institute Journal, Vol. VI., p. 414.

In the Illustrated London News, Nov. 16, 1850, is also a representation of a horn-book of the last century, stated to have been then "lately found in the old stock of a bookseller at Peterborough."

The horn-book was not always printed on paper, and attached to a thin piece of oak; they were at times printed on the horn, or the face of the printed paper glued or pasted to the back of the horn to be read through it.

Why the horn-book, a single leaf, should bear the appellation of a book has at times been questioned, but it once decided a cause when the late Lord Erskine was at the bar. The Court doubted the propriety of calling a printed sheet a book, when it could not be established by fact. "Yes, my Lord," replied Erskine as counsel, "by the common horn-book."

THE BIOGRAPHER OF CAMOENS.

John Adamson, the third son of Cuthbert Adamson,* Lieut. R.N., by his second wife Mary, daughter of John Huthwaite, Esq., of Seaton Delaval, was born in High Street, Gateshead, in the house now occupied as the Fulwell Lime Office, on Thursday, Sept. 13, 1787. In early life he was sent to Lisbon on a mercantile course, which he subsequently abandoned, and on returning was articled to an attorney at Newcastle-upon-Tyne. His literary turn of mind appears while in Portugal to have diverted him from the pursuit of trade to that admiration and appreciation of Portuguese literature, which in later years was in his labours successfully developed. His first publication in 1808, duod., was a translation of the Tragedy of Nicola Luiz, entitled Dona Ignez de Castro; with some Remarks on her History. It was printed at Newcastle, and was favourably received.

In 1811, his legal attainments obtained for him the permanent appointment of Under Sheriff of Newcastle, this he retained till the passing of the Municipal Reform Bill in 1836, rendered that office no longer tenable. In 1811, he became a Member of the Literary and Philosophical Society in that town, and in 1825, accepted the office of Honorary Secretary, which he held till his decease. How well his endeavours and purposes were disposed towards the progress of that institution is evidenced by the extent and excellency of its library in its several departments.

The Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne was established Feb. 11, 1813, and Mr. Adamson, who had laboured successfully in its constitution, became their Treasurer and Secretary, and to their published Transactions entitled Archæologia Æliana, he was a frequent contributor. He was also a Member of the London Society of Antiquaries, and among other papers in their Archæologia, was the author of a paper illustrative of the Stycas and their varieties, discovered in a bronze vessel at Hexham, in Northumberland. Unable to appropriate sufficient time from the hours his other avocations demanded, he was assisted by the late Trotter Brockett, junior; the result of their co-operation was a lucid paper on a very difficult subject, greatly redounding to their credit. Mr. Adamson was also a Fellow of the Linnæan Society; a corresponding member of the Royal Academy of Science, Lisbon; a member of the Royal Society of Literature, and of various other distinguished societies at home and abroad.

That portion of his literary labours which will perpetuate his name, is his Memoirs of the Life and Writings of Luis de Camoèns, printed in 1820, in 2 vols. In his acknowledgments to friends, he notices in particular those specially due to "Mrs. Cockle who obligingly versified his prose translations of those pieces which bear her initial." To this lady he seems to have paid the utmost deference, and to have spoken with great diffidence of his labours on that work. Mrs. Cockle's copy of the book, on large paper, is before the writer, and has prefixed a long and interesting letter to her, from Mr. Adamson, in reference to her co-operation, and the topics of the day.

DEAR MADAM,—I send you herewith the second and third chapters of my Life of Camoens, to which I can add nothing having consulted every authority. I have detained the first and second on account of some new matter. It is very kind of you to take the trouble to look over the MS., there are many errors I am afraid in it, not being much accustomed to composition above what is usual in an attorney's office. I feel extremely diffident on the occasion, and therefore beg you will alter any sentence or enlarge on any passage you think you can amend, for all which I shall feel grateful. The other chapters you shall have, and between us I hope we shall be able to make the work acceptable. I am sure it will be correct, and that very much research has been made and pains taken to render it so. I will consult some of my literary friends in London about it, for I am almost sick of the idea of publishing it here, there are so many trifling publications coming out and have appeared, this is *entre nous*. I shall go to London about the 8th of next month, and hope this time to get to Paris. You must come for a few days before I go, that we may consult, and I must work hard this month.

The work was published in London by Messrs. Longmans, and has long been, in the language of Paternoster Row,—out of print. It was ably and most favourably reviewed by Southey, in the Quarterly Review, for May 1822.

Disposed towards collections of Natural History, he formed an extensive one of shells and fossils; of the former, in elucidation of its objects, and for conveying information to others, he published in 1823, the result

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* The Adamson Family were in the sixteenth century considerable landowners in the County of Durham. The wills of many of them are deposited in the registry of Durham, and prove them to have been substantial yeomen. The earliest will, dated in 1582, is that of Margaret Adamson, widow, of Eldon, in which neighbourhood they would seem chiefly to have been settled. Surtees states that a great portion of the Redworth estate, as well as a part of the Whitworth property was acquired by purchase from the Adamsons.

of his inquiries and observations in a work, entitled Conchological Tables; this too has long since been disseminated, and copies are now not obtainable. The collection was a few years subsequently disposed of in London, as from the frequency of importations from almost unknown portions of the globe by scientific and well-informed naval commanders, what specimens in that department of science were once rarities, were rapidly becoming common and greatly reduced in value, a shell that at one time was not procurable for less than ten guineas, was from these causes in many instances estimated as dear at ten shillings; hence, to arrest further loss, he availed himself of an offer made to him for its purchase; he sold it, and presented his fossils to the Museum of the Natural History Society of Newcastle.

In 1836, Mr. Adamson printed privately Bibliotheca Lusitania, a Catalogue of his collections in Portuguese Literature, this he presented to friends, and for years latterly, being without a copy, has often complained of his inability to obtain one. Subsequently, in the years 1842 and 1846, he printed privately Lusitania Illustrata: Illustrations of the Traditions and Minstrelsy of Portugal. The translations were by Mr. Adamson, but the versified form in which they appear was by his valued friend the Rev. R. C. Coxe, Vicar of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

On the morning of Monday, April 16, 1849, an oak beam within the chimney of Mr. Adamson's library, at his residence in Westgate Street, ignited and caused the entire destruction of his books, manuscripts, and choice collections on local and other antiquities. The whole was insured, but he was not disposed to press matters with the Insurance Office, and he arranged with them to accept twelve hundred pounds, a sum less than half of the cost, to say nothing of his rarities in Portuguese literature which had been presented to him by the Portuguese and Prussian governments, and various distinguished individuals: all were consumed.

The late Mr. Quillinan having at his death left in MS. a translation of the first Five Books of Camoens' Lusiad, which his daughters were desirous of publishing to add to their father's previous literary distinction, Mr. Adamson induced Mr. Moxon to publish it, but on finding that a loss of fifty pounds on the printing charges was unliquidated by a deficiency in the sale, he at once paid that sum, to preclude any anxiety in their minds.

Independently of his business as a solicitor, Mr. Adamson was Secretary of the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway Company, and also held other important situations, to all of which he rendered satisfactory attention; but the year 1855 appears to have been one of great personal infirmity and pain. In a letter to the writer, dated June 12, expressive of his desire to obtain certain desiderata in Portuguese literature to replace the loss occasioned by the fire, he expresses a fore-telling of what too soon happened—

Having been sadly afflicted with the severest fit of gout I ever experienced, which has annoyed me for upwards of four months, and under which I am still suffering, and almost crippled, I have been setting my things in order; and making a Catalogue of several curious and rare books which escaped the fire that consumed my Library.

He recovered sufficiently to effect his long-desired visit to the metropolis, and on Sept. 12th he called on the writer, and observed,—"I have long wished to have a day with you, to-morrow is my birth-day, when I shall complete my sixty-eighth year, and I am determined you, my friend here, the Manager of the Newcastle Railway, and myself shall have an agreeable day to-morrow at the Crystal Palace." He would hear of no excuse, no avoidance of the pleasure that he had promised for himself, but insisted on the writer's being with him, early in the morning to breakfast, and start in good purpose to Sydenham. While there he seemed to experience considerable pain in the chest, which he appeared vainly to suppress. He admitted he felt great pain, but wished no one to observe it. At dinner, on wishing him many happier returns of the day, he thanked the writer for these kindly expressed wishes, but observed, he "had no desire to see another, and perhaps," said he, "you will also think as I do, that I have lived long enough, when I can see around me three-and-twenty grand-children." We parted, not without silent forebodings that his pains were more acute than he allowed them to appear; and he returned home on the morrow. On the evening of the 24th he became seriously ill, and he expired on Thursday, the 27th ult., at his house, No. 9, Victoria Terrace, Jesmond Road, Newcastle.

Long, very long, may his Memory be revered!

FOUNDATION STONE OF BLENHEIM PALACE.

In a common-place book of the late William Upcott, in my possession, is the following extract from some contemporary Diary, of the year 1705.

Woodstock, June 19. Yesterday being Monday, about six o'clock in the evening, was laid the first stone of the Duke of Marlborough's house, by Mr. Vanbrugge, and then seven Gentlemen gave it a stroke with a hammer, and each of them threw down a guinea. Sir Thomas Wheate was the first, Dr. Bouchel the second, Mr. Vanbrugge the third, I know not the rest. There were several sorts of musicke, three morris-dances, one of young fellows, one of maidens, and one of old beldames. There were about a hundred buckets, bowls and pans filled with wine, punch, cakes and ales. From my Lord's house, all went to the Town-hall, where plenty of sack, claret, cakes, etc., were prepared for the gentry and better sort; and under the Cross, eight barrels of ale, with abundance of cakes, were placed for the common people.

The stone laid by Mr. Vanbrugge was eight square, finely polished, about eighteen inches over, and upon it inlaid in pewter were these words:—

IN MEMORY OF
THE
BATTEL OF BLENHEIM,
JUNE 18, 1705.
ANNA REGINA.

The battle of Blenheim was fought August 3, 1704.

EDWARD F. RIMBAULT.

GRANT OF TOWN ARMS TO IPSWICH.

The accession of Queen Elizabeth as a Protestant monarch was a source of much gladness to the people of England, and in that particular no town displayed more loyalty than that of Ipswich. The Queen, conscious of their good feeling, visited them on more than one occasion, and the charters which had been confirmed to them by King Edward the Sixth, July 8, 1548, she again confirmed by an inspeximus dated at Westminster, Sept. 23, 1560. In 1561, some notice of the Queen's purpose to again visit the town having been announced, assessors were named on June 10, in that year, to assess all the inhabitants to the charges of the Queen's entertainment on her next coming, and all who did not pay their assessments were to be disfranchised. At the close of July, the Queen was at Colchester, and went thence to Ipswich, and was entertained there from Wednesday, August 6, till the following Sunday. The amount of each day's charges are thus recorded—

Wednesday . . .	108	9	8½
Thursday	104	14	3
Friday	100	3	9½
Saturday	108	10	6½
Sunday	134	9	4
	556	7	6½

This sum may be said to have been solely expended on the festivities of that occasion. The poor were scarcely remembered, and the entry of Elemosina, or dole, is only four shillings!

The governing authorities of the town, having obtained a confirmation of their charters and privileges, appear to have thought of their armorial honours, and required from William Harvey,* then Clarenceux, a patent, which was granted in the following terms:—

To all and singular as well Kings Heralds and Officers of Armes as Nobles, Gentlemen, and others which these presents shall see or hear, WILLIAM HERVYE Esquire otherwise named Clarencieux principal Heralde and Kinge of Armes of the Southe East and West parties of this Realme of Englande sendeth our comendacions and greeting; Forasmuch as auncyentlye from the beginninge the renowne of aunciente Cytes and Towns corporat hath ben comended to the Worlde by sundrye Signs and Tokens in shelds called Armes which are none other things than demonstracions of the good desert and lawdable art and costomes of the inhabitants of the same, Among the which I the sayde Clarencieulx, Kinge of Armes have at this present specially noted the right worshipful and well disposed persons the Bayliffe and Burgesses of the Town of Iypswiche who hath well and worshipfully guided and behaved themselves in all humble obedience towards theyr prince and countrye from the beginning, so that they by theyr severe orders and couragious proceedings have rather augmented the estate and comen wealth of theyr sayd towne than otherways decayed the same, whereby they have well merited and deserved to be in all places of Honour and Worship accepted and receyved, and to have, use and beare suche signes and tokens in shelds called Armes, as shall be mete and convenyent for a further declaration of their comendable proceedings herein. And whereas at this present John Gardyner and Jeffrey Gylbert bayliffs of the sayde Towne of Iypswiche beinge uncertaine of the auncient armes belonging to theyr said Towne and Corporacion and not willing to do any thing preiudiciall to anye manner of person or persons hath instantly requyred me the saide Clarencieulx Kinge of Armes to make a searche in the register and recordes of myne offiyce and to assigne unto them theyr right auncient armes, Whereupon considering theyr request so iuste and reasonable I have accordlye made searche in my sayde registers and records, and have founde the antiquitye thereof so that I could not without theyr greate preiudyce alter or change the same, but accordinge to my callynge in office ratifye and confirme theyr sayde aunciente armes as followeth (that is to say) Partye par pale gules and azure, in the first a lyon rampant regardant gold armys and langues azure; in the second, thre demy botes of the third. And for a testimony and further encrease of theyr wourthyness I have granted and assigned unto them for an augmentacion of theyr sayde armes, healme and creaste two supporters, that is to say, upon the healme, a demy lyon golde supportinge a shyppe sable, on a wreath argent and sable manteled gules dobled argent; and for theyr supporters, two horses of the sea argent, commonly called Neptune's Horses maynde and fynned golde, supportinge the owlde and auncyent armes belonging to theyr Towne and Corporacion as more playnclye aperith depicted in this, which armes healme and creste with the two supporters I the sayde Clarencieulx Kinge of Armes by power and authoryte to myne office anexed and granted under the Great Seale of England have ratefyed and confirmed given and granted and by these presents do ratefy and confyrm give and graunte unto the said John Gardener and Jeffrey Gylbert at this present bayliffs of the sayde Towne of Iypswiche and to theyr successors for evermore by the name bayliffs burgesses and comonaltye, and the same armes healme and crest to use and beare and show in sheld and banners or bannar rowles standerd or standerds pennon or pennons pencell or pencells to theyr honour and wourshippe at theyr lybertye and pleasure without impediment lett or interrupcion of any person or persons. In Witness whereof I the sayde Clarencieulx Kinge of Armes have hereunto subscribed my name

* William Harvey, created Norroy by patent, dated Feb. 2, 1551, succeeded Thomas Hawley, Clarenceux, who died August 21, 1557. His being raised to that office is thus noticed:—"Nov. 21, 1557. The Queen (Mary) set a crown upon the head of Mr. Norroy, king-at-arms, and created him Clarenceux, with a cup of wine, at St. James's, her Grace's place." He died at Thame, in Oxfordshire, Feb. 27, 1567.

and sealed the same with the seale of myne offiyce, and the seale of myne armes the xxij^nd daye of August in the yeare of our Lorde God 1561, and in the third yeare of the Reigne of our most dread Sovereigne Ladye Elizabeth by the Grace of God Queene of England Fraunce and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc.

W. Hervey als. Clarencieux,
King of Armes.

The original of this grant is now wholly unknown to the Corporation of Ipswich. For many years the Corporation papers were heedlessly thrown about the Council-chamber, no care was taken of them; and as all the townspeople had access to them, any person could take what he pleased. The original grant is believed to have been lost to the town many years since.

Lee-road, Blackheath, Oct. 7. J. J. H.

FLY-LEAF RHYMES.

On the fly-leaves of mathematical and other works, which passed from Nicholson's circulating library at Cambridge to the students in the several colleges, were frequently inscribed, in their leisure moments, many occasional witty allusions. The following have been noticed by the writer—

Robin o'Bobbin o' Bilbury Staines,
Than three score men has got more brains;
For three score men have been hang'd for theft,
While Robin o'Bobbin o'Bilbury's left.

Another, appears to have been written, possibly by some waggish pupil, on the botanical propensity of his tutor—

A little garden little Jowett made,
And fenced it with a little palisade:
Would you know the taste of little Jowett,
This little garden won't a little show it.

Joseph Jowett, LL.D., was Professor of Civil Law at Cambridge, where he died in November, 1813, in his sixty-third year. J. D.

PORTRAIT OF TOM D'URFEY.

Prefixed to the Pills to purge Melancholy, is a finely engraved portrait of D'Urfey, by Vertue, but it is a front face, the object being to divert the attention from the prominency of the Nasal organ. At Knowle House in Kent, is a painting of the Steward's room, with three persons, portraits of the Earl of Dorset's steward, his chaplain and D'Urfey, from this a Mezzotinto, a private plate was done, and in the Strawberry Hill Catalogue, p. 225, no. 81, is described as "a humourous print—a Toping Meeting of a Parson, a Burgher Master's Steward, and a Poet." Walpole so misrepresented the facts, though Cole, Add. MSS. Brit. Mus. 6391; has there recorded D'Urfey "never forgave the Earl of Dorset for having his picture done, as he was so ugly he never would sit for it." The writer of the Notes to the Effigies Poeticæ, observes in reference to this portrait—we never saw a human countenance which so entirely resembled a mask as this, and yet it is a strong resemblance of the author.

Edward F. Rimbault.

RUNDALE TENURE IN LANDS.

Can any Correspondent of Current Notes say what was the origin of the Rundale system of tenure in lands? The practice prevailed formerly in Yorkshire, and may do so still; the word balk, however, is well known in that county as implying a ridge of greensward left by the plough in ploughing, or by design by different occupancies in a common field.

Downpatrick, Oct. 3. J. A. Pilson.

SHAKESPEARE'S CHAIR.

The chairs of distinguished men have long been pictorially transmitted to after ages as objects of curiosity and interest. In reference to England's dramatic bard, every relic has been venerated with intense feeling, and since the asserted house of his birth at Stratford-upon-Avon has been visited as a shrine by those who have admired his transcendant genius, there has constantly been pointed out a particular chair as that which Shakespeare used. These chairs have, however, been fabricated from time to time to suit the exigency of demand, and the public have been grossly deceived. The Empress Catharine heard that 'Shakespeare's Chair' remained at Stratford-upon-Avon, she was determined to possess it, and accordingly directed Count Woronzow to secure it, even at the price of Five Hundred pounds.* It is almost nugatory to observe, the

* The Empress was a zealous collector, and cherished the memory of her predecessor the Czar Peter, with almost a frenzied veneration. She had read or had been informed, that while in London, when he landed from Deptford, at the Tower Stairs, there was a public-house in Great Tower Street, at which he used to stop and refresh himself, and that, in compliment to his visits there, the Czar's Head was

object of her adoration passed to St. Petersburgh, and another chair was found to occupy its place. Whether it was the subject of the present illustration, is not a question—the drawing from which it is made is dated June 29, 1807, and it was purchased by some duped English nobleman, for a large amount, it is said two hundred pounds!

RIGHT OF WAY.—In many rural districts it is a popular opinion the passage of a corpse along a private road constitutes a right of way? I am unable to find any law bearing on the subject, and am anxious for some information on the subject, my own opinion being that the law would never sanction so serious a wrong as the above might prove in some cases, and which malice might so easily cause, since few men would commit the public indecency of staying a funeral procession and insist upon toll.

Llangollen, Oct. 1. G.

The opinion here expressed is a popular error, and I am not aware that any person has ever attempted to moot the question in a court of law. The owner of an estate, a few miles hence, has to my own knowledge refused to allow a corpse to be borne along a private way or road upon his land supposing that it would create a public right of way, although by the *owner's consent*, I once saw a corpse carried along the same road, being the *nearest way to the church*; possibly from some such reasons has arisen the error that it becomes thereby a public way.

Ipswich, Oct. 3. W. P. H.

The popular opinion is a delusion. Blackstone, vol. ii. p. 36, observes, "Right of way may be grounded on a special permission, as when the owner of the land grants to another a liberty of passing over his grounds to go to church, to market, or the like, in which case, the gift or grant is particular, and confined to the grantee alone." No right of way could arise, supposing permission to have been granted from necessity of the case, as that permission would cease with the necessity.

Lincoln's Inn, Oct. 8. H. S.

ANCIENT EPITAPHIAL RHYMES.

Our old poets formerly penned quaint acrostics for the most part in praise of the charms of some inexorably hard-hearted Chloe, or in place of sonnets on some scornful mistress's eyebrows, but as epitaphial encomiums they are rarely found. On the tomb of one Richard Swift, in the small parish church of Blakenham Magna, near Ipswich, is the following eulogium on one who lived in the early part of the seventeenth century, and was buried there. It is certainly very curious, and may serve to draw similar communications from others of your correspondents.

The lines are not particularly commendable for their conciseness or their correctness; and the word 'Epitaph' in the last line must, I apprehend, be a clerical error for 'Initials,' which, although it does not improve the sense of the sentence, helps us directly to its meaning.

Reader know that this narrow earthe,
Incloseth one whose name and worth
Can live when marble falls to dust:
Honor'd abroad for wise and just,
Aske the Russe and Sweden Theis
Report his prudence, with their peace.
Deare when at Home, to his faith giv'n
Stedfast as earth, devout to Heav'n.
Wise merchant he some storms endured,
In the best porte his soul secured.
For feare thou should'st forget his name,
Tis the first Epitaph of Fame.

On a stone inserted in the chancel wall of St. Nicholas' Church, Ipswich, is another quaint inscription, a strange specimen of "an epitaph professional," seemingly composed by the bold mariner himself, by whom possibly directions were given in his will to ensure its due appearance in public. The rhyme is evidently spun out with considerable difficulty, and there is a taint of the familiarly blasphemous in its composition which I find generally among the monumental records of the sailors on this coast.

Though Boreas' blasts and Neptune's waves,
Have tost me to and fro;
Yet at last by God's desire
I harbour here below.
While here I at an anchor ride,
With many of our fleet;
Yet once again I shall set sail
Our Admiral Christ to meet.

Needham Market, Oct. 11. LINCOLN GREEN.

The epitaph in Current Notes, p. 64, from Llangollen Churchyard, is repeated with slight verbal alterations in Highgate Cemetery, with the subscription—The private sleeping apartment of Richard Hislop of Islington.

In Kensal Green Cemetery is the following—

Pain was my portion,
Physic was my faith,
Groans were my devotion,
Drugs did me no good.
Christ was my Physician,
Knew which way was best;
To ease me of my pain
He took my soul to rest.

In the crypt of Glasgow Cathedral, is this inscription—

Our life's a flying shadow—God's the pole,
The index pointing at him is our soul.
Death's the horizon, when our sun is set
Which will through Christ a resurrection get.

Lincoln's Inn, Oct. 14. J. L. R.

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set up as a sign. Learning it was still there, she directed her ambassador Count Woronzow, to obtain the sign-board for her; but the Count, on application found that Boniface was simply a tenant, and in the disposition or removal of the sign-board he had not the slightest control; on applying to the owner of the house, there was no desire to part with the Czar's Head, till the Empress's representative proposed such terms as entirely quieted all argument, he proposed in lieu of the old sign, to replace it by a new one, paying all the charges, and a further sum of Five Hundred pounds. The old Czar's Head was soon shipped to St. Petersburgh.

SIR R. ADAIR, THE ROLLIAD, AND THE ANTI-JACOBIN.

On the 3rd instant, at the advanced age of 92, died the Right Hon. Sir Robert Adair, K.C.B., leaving behind him the reputation of having by his ability in various embassies done the state some service. He likewise contributed to the history of his own time by the accounts of his embassies to Vienna and Constantinople.

Endued with no small amount of ability and vivacity, he lost no time on his introduction into public life, which took place at an early age under the patronage of his powerful relatives the noble houses of Bedford and Albemarle, and Mr. Fox, in bringing his talents to their service. Besides writing some spirited political pamphlets, he contributed to the "Political Eclogues" appended to the "Rolliad," the poetical piece entitled "Margaret Nicholson," in which "Mr. Wilkes and Lord Hawkesbury alternately congratulate each other on his Majesty's late happy escape." Its object was to insinuate that Pitt and his ministerial colleagues had, for their own purposes, elevated the attempt to assassinate the King into undue importance. It thus commences:

The Session up; the India-Bench appeased,
The Lansdownes satisfied, the Lowthers pleased,
Each job despatched; the Treasury boys depart,
As various fancy prompts each youthful heart.
Pitt, in chaste kisses seeking virtuous joy,
Begs Lady Chatham's blessing on her boy; etc.

His other contribution to this collection was entitled "The Song of Scrutina," written in the style of Ossian, and had reference to the famous "Scrutiny" after the Westminster Election in 1784, when Fox achieved a triumph over the Government candidates Lord Hood and Sir Cecil Wray. In this Scrutiny the Rolliad had its origin. The following is the commencement.

Hark! 'tis the dismal sound that echoes on thy roofs, oh, Cornwall; Hail! double-face sage! Thou worthy son of the chair-borne Fletcher! The Great Council is met to fix the seats of the chosen chief; their voices resound in the gloomy Hall of Rufus like the roaring winds of the cavern. Loud were the cries for Rays, but thy voice, oh! Foxan rendered the walls like the torrent that gusheth from the mountain side. Cornwall leaped from his throne and screamed—the friends of Gwelfo hung their heads. How were the mighty fallen! Lift up thy face, Dundasso, like the brazen shield of thy chieftain! Thou art bold to confront disgrace, and shame is unknown to thy brow—but tender is the youth of thy Leader, who droopeth his head like a faded lily. Leave not Pitto in the day of defeat, when the Chiefs of the counties fly from him like the herd from the galled deer. The friends of Pitto are fled, etc.

Some years after, considerable attention was attracted to Mr. Adair by the accusation brought against him in Burke's famous pamphlet, entitled "Observations on the Conduct of the Minority," of having been sent by Fox in 1790 to St. Petersburgh, to counteract the measures of Pitt, who, in conjunction with Prussia and Holland, had prepared a powerful armament to compel the Empress Catherine to give up Ockzakow,* which she had unjustifiably seized. Though repeatedly contradicted, yet so late as April 1853, this "mission" was alluded to as a fact by Lord Malmesbury in the House of Lords, when it was authoritatively denied, with many encomiums on the character and abilities of Sir Robert Adair, by Lord Campbell. It was certainly believed at the time, and Pitt, in consequence, was urged, in vain, by the Duke of Richmond and others of the Government, to arrest Fox for High Treason. The Empress testified her gratitude to Fox on this occasion, (for Pitt was compelled to abandon his warlike measures,) by placing in her palace his Bust between those of Demosthenes and Cicero. This is alluded to in the "Anti-Jacobin," in the following lines, which have been attributed to the pens of Hookham Frere and George Ellis, but which James Boswell, the younger, on the authority of the nephew of the great statesman, states were written by Pitt.

Lines written by a Traveller at Czaroo-zelo under the Bust of a certain Orator, once placed between those of Demosthenes and Cicero.

The GRECIAN Orator of old,
With scorn rejected PHILIP'S laws,
Indignant spurn'd at foreign gold,
And triumph'd in his country's cause.

A foe to every wild extreme,
'Mid civil storms the Roman Sage
Repress'd Ambition's frantic scheme,
And check'd the madding people's rage.

Their country's peace, and wealth and fame,
With patriot zeal their labours sought,
And Rome's or Athens' honoured name
Inspired and govern'd every thought.

Who now, in this presumptuous hour,
Aspires to share the Athenian's praise?
The advocate of foreign power,
The Æschines of latter days.

What chosen name to Tully's join'd,
Is thus announced to distant climes?
Behold to lasting shame consign'd,
The Catiline of modern times.†

The following observations of Prior in his "Life of Burke" are not without interest at the present time.

"It seems to have escaped general notice that the misfortunes of Poland in her final partition may be, in some degree, attributed, however undesignedly on their part, to Mr. Fox and the Opposition, in the strong and unusual means made use of to thwart Mr. Pitt in the business of Ockzakow. They lay claim, it is true, to the merit of

* Ockzakow has now fallen into the possession of the Allies.

† The Court party delighted in stigmatizing Fox as the modern Catiline. "But the part which he took in parliament subsequent to 1793," says Sir N. Wraxall, in his Posthumous Memoirs, "and the eulogiums lavished by him on the French Revolution, soon changed the Empress's tone. She caused the bust to be removed; and when reproached with such a change in her conduct, she replied, C'étoit Monsieur Fox de *Quatre-vingt-onze* que j'ai placé dans mon cabinet."

having prevented war on that occasion. But if war had then taken place with England for one act of violence comparatively trivial, Russia, in all probability, would not have ventured upon a second and still greater aggression, involving the existence of a nation, with the certainty of a second war. Nothing, after all, might have saved Poland from the combination then on foot against her; but it is certain that Mr. Pitt, from recent experience, had little encouragement to make the attempt."

In 1796, appeared "Part of a Letter from Robert Adair, Esq., to the Rt. Hon. C. J. Fox; occasioned by Mr. Burke's mention of Lord Keppel in a recent publication." This, which is by no means a contemptible composition, was intended as a vindication of the writer's uncle, Admiral Lord Keppel and Fox; with characteristic delineations of Sir G. Saville, the Marquis of Rockingham, Lord North, and Byng; on all of whom he passes great compliments. The "ANTI-JACOBIN," ever ready to attack Fox and his party, thus satirizes the author:

Or is it he,—the youth, whose daring soul
With *half a mission* sought the Frozen Pole;—
And then, returning from the unfinish'd work,
Wrote *half a letter*,—to demolish BURKE?
Studied Burke's manner,—aped his forms of speech;
Though when he strives his metaphors to reach,
One luckless slip his meaning overstrains,
And loads the blunderbuss with BEDFORD'S brains.

And again in the following "free translation, or rather perhaps imitation, of the twentieth Ode of the second Book of Horace," which, according to a memorandum of Canning's, was written by George Ellis.

A BIT OF AN ODE TO MR. FOX.

On grey goose quills sublime I'll soar*
To metaphors unreach'd before,
That scare the vulgar reader:
With style well form'd from BURKE'S best books—
From rules of grammar (e'en HORNE TOOKE'S)
A bold and free Seceder.

I whom, dear Fox, you condescend†
To call your "Honourable Friend,"
Shall live for everlasting:
That Stygian Gallery I'll quit,‡
Where printers crowd me, as I sit
Half dead with rage and fasting.

I feel! the growing down descends.§
Like goose-skin, to my finger's ends—
Each nail becomes a feather:
My cropp'd head waves with sudden plumes,‖
Which erst (like BEDFORD'S, or his groom's)
Unpowder'd braved the weather.

I mount, I mount into the sky,
"Sweet bird,"¶ to Petersburg I 'll fly;**
Or, if you bid, to Paris;
Fresh missions of the Fox and Goose
Successful Treaties may produce;
Though PITT in all miscarries.

Scotch, English, Irish Whigs shall read††
The Pamphlets, Letters, Odes I breed,
Charm'd with each bright endeavour:
Alarmists tremble at my strain,‡‡
E'en PITT, made candid by champaign,§§
Shall hail ADAIR "the clever."

Though criticism assail my name,
And luckless blunders blot my fame,‖‖
O! make no needless bustle;¶¶
As vain and idle it would be
To waste one pitying thought on me,
As to "unPLUMB a RUSSELL."***

He is again alluded to by the "ANTI-JACOBIN" in Rogero's song in the inimitable burlesque play, (written by Canning, Frere, Gifford, and Ellis) entitled "The Rovers."

There first for thee my passion grew,
Sweet! sweet Matilda Pottingen!
Thou wast the daughter of my tu—
—tor, law professor at the U—
—niversity of Gottingen—
—niversity of Gottingen.

These and similar attacks were, however, regarded by Mr. Adair as but fair retaliation for his own upon Pitt and his colleagues, and as he good-naturedly mentioned to the writer of the present sketch, who, when preparing a new edition of the "POETRY OF THE ANTI-JACOBIN," was kindly furnished by him with clues to many allusions in that witty work, "only gave him an importance to which his merits did not entitle him." These were however sufficiently great to induce his old antagonist, Canning, and successive ministers, to select him as Ambassador to various continental Courts, at all of which he acquitted himself so satisfactorily as to earn for him the dignity of knighthood, the title of K.C.B., and the highest diplomatic pension of 2000*l.* per annum.

C. EDMONDS.

The personalties of the late Mr. Henry Colburn, publisher, in Great Marlborough-street, have been sworn by his Executors as being under 37,000*l.*

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* Non usitatâ nec tenui ferar
Pennâ biformis per liquidum æthera
Vates.

† ——— Non ego, quem vocas
Dilecte, Mæcenas, obibo,

‡ Nec Stygiâ cohibebor undâ.

§ Jamjam residunt cruribus asperæ
Pelles, et album mutor in alitem

‖ Supernè, nascunturque leves
Per digitos humerosque plumæ.

Visam gementis litora Bospori,
Syrtesque Gætulas, ¶ canorus
Ales, ** Hyperboreosque campos.

†† Me Colchus, et qui ‡‡ dissimulat metum.
* * * * *
* * * me peritus
Discet Iber, Rhodanique §§ potor.
Absint ‖‖ inani funere neniæ,
¶¶ Luctusque turpes et querimoniæ.
*** ——— sepulchri
Mitte supervacuos honores.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LIX.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [NOVEMBER, 1855.

MADRON WELL CHAPEL.

Deep buried in entangled brushwood and heath, about a mile and a half from Penzance in Cornwall, are the ruins of Madron Well chapel, which though a good example of the well chapel, and in repute at the time of the Civil War, it is but little known, or, in fact noticed.

Doubtless it cannot claim so high an antiquity as most of its fellow ruins, yet there are one or two points for which it should not be wholly passed by.

The well, not very long since superstitiously used for healing some disease, but now dry, is in the south-west corner, and contrary to the usual custom, the only entrance is on the north side, usually assigned to Satanic influence. Opposite to the door, are the remains of a window; a low seat, with a slight moulding runs nearly round the building. The altar, a fine smooth slab of granite, supported on three or four huge masses of the same stone; has on its face a square sink nine inches on each side, and about an inch deep. The altar is one foot, three inches high, five feet, seven inches long, and two feet, nine inches in width.

This is not, I believe, the largest of our Cornish Well chapels; the highest part of the ruined walls is not more than five feet; the thickness around the well is three feet, in other parts, two feet.

Qu. Are there any other instances of the entrance to these ehapels being on the north side? And again, was the square cut in the altar-slab, intended for the socket of a cross?

Under the south side of the Chancel in the church at St. Michael's Mount, Cornwall, is a small dungeon, it opens down from a seat, and seems tolerably secure from discovery. There are legends of bones and a huge skull being found there, which perhaps we should receive cautiously; it struck me as having been most likely a priest's hiding-place. Was it so?

Torrington Square, Nov. 7. T. H. PATTISON.

WIGS. Why is it that Wigs once so generally worn, are now fallen into disuse?

Chippenham, Nov. 2. S. G.

Fashion effects much in these matters, added to which, these lines may afford some solution of the question—

In days of yore, wisdom and lore,
Were center'd in the Wig;
But now, since skull, of both is full,
The peruke's found too big!

BELL AND MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

Mottoes on Bells are occasionally in Current Notes, but I do not recollect that you have given one that pleasantly expresses a quaint, but pious sentiment which I read some years since on one of the bells in the beautiful tower of Repton Church, Derbyshire,—

I sweetly toling men do call,
To taste on meats thatt feeds the soule.

JANE THACKER. 1622. GODFREY THACKER.

The following verse, on a mural tablet in the church of Leigh Delamere, Wiltshire, may be considered curious from the perpetuation of provincialisms so richly crowded into the third line.

Death in a very good old age,
Ended our weary pilgrim stage.
It 'twas to We a end of pain,
In hopes to enter life again.

The monument commemorates Alice, wife of John Browning, who died May 22, 1763, aged 72 years; and John Browning, her husband, who died April 7, 1764, aged 80 years. J. BARNARD DAVIS.

Shelton, Staffordshire, Nov. 16.

The Epitaph noticed in Current Notes, p. 82, as being in Kensal Green Cemetery, is also in the abbey churchyard of Great Malvern, with some words different, and the grammar betokening an older date.

For Epitaph Collectors, there is one in St. Philip's churchyard, Birmingham, which might be classed among the ludicrous. It is written, I should think, by an Irishman. I forget the first two lines, they are however a lament for his wife, and he concludes by thus apostrophising Death.

O Cruel Death! thou should'st have taken both, if either; which would have been much more pleasant to the survivor. M. J.

DR. JOHNSON justly observes: The business of life is to go *forward*, he who sees evil in *prospect*, meets it in his way: but he who catches it by retrospection, *turns back* to find it. That which is feared, may sometimes be avoided; but that which is regretted to-day, may be regretted to-morrow. We should, to be *useful*, decidedly condemn the indulgence of brooding over circumstances and events that thought cannot mend, because it unstrings the mind; and that once done, it is surprising with what rapidity all its peace unravels itself; and how much it loses of the power of judging rightly on the mixed condition of human affairs.

VESPERO SICILIANO.

The massacre of the French, called Vespero Siciliano, did not take place on Easter-day, as stated in a note in Current Notes, p. 74, but, according to Giannone, on the Tuesday after—nel terzo giorno di Pasqua, March 31, 1282;* or, according to Muratori, on the Monday after—nel lunedì di Pasqua di Resurrezione, the 30th day of the said month and year; he, however, adds—scrivono altri, nel Martedì, the 31st of the said month.† Bossi assigns to it the last date, saying—nel giorno 31 di Marzo dell' anno 1282.‡

Bristol, November 9. F. S. DONATO.

A CHRIST CROSS RHYME.

Christ his Cross shall be my speed!
Teach me, Father John, to read;
That in Church, on Holy-day,
I may chant the psalm and pray.

Let me learn, that I may know,
What the shining windows show;
Where the lovely Lady stands,
With that bright Child in her hands.

Teach me letters, A, B, C;
Till that I shall able be,
Signs to know, and words to frame,
And to spell sweet Jesu's name.

Then dear Master will I look,
Day and night in that fair book,
Where the tales of Saints are told,
With their pictures all in gold.

Teach me, Father John, to say
Vesper-verse and matin-lay;
So when I to God shall plead,
Christ his Cross shall be my speed!

Morwenstow. R. S. HAWKER.

HORN BOOK.—The two horn books, erroneously noticed at p. 77., as belonging to Sir Thomas Phillipps, are the property of Mr J. O. Westwood, who also possesses a third, more modern, like the old ones in general form and appearance, but with simply a marbled paper back. In reference to the earlier specimens, Mr. Westwood further intimates—

I have compared mine with the one in the possession of Thomas Longman, Esq., Paternoster-row, with which they agree in size, and almost in type; but his specimen has on the back only St. George and the Dragon, whereas mine have respectively the figure of the reigning monarch with his initials printed in gold on the back from a rude wood-block, thus enabling us to determine the precise date of the two specimens, as well as to afford an approximate date to that belonging to Mr. Longman, to which an incorrect period had been assigned.

* Storia de Napoli. Tomo III., Lib. xx., Cap. 5., p. 44.
† Annali d'Italia, Napoli, 1753, 4to., Tomo VII., p. 367.
‡ Storia d'Italia Antica e Moderna, Tomo XV., Lib. v., Cap. x., p. 289.

FASTRADANA, WIFE OF CHARLEMAGNE.

In the Illustrated London News, Nov. 10, p. 565, is a facsimile of a curious inscription to the memory of Fastradana, the third wife of Charlemagne, which I read thus—

Fastradana pia Caroli conjunx vocitata,
Cristo dilecta, jacet hoc sub marmore, anno
Septingentesimo bonagesimo quarto.
Quem numerum metro claudere musa vetat.
Rex pie. que gessit virgo, licet hic cinerescit,
Spiritus heres sit patrie, que tristia nescit.

Some critics pronounce the last two lines to be nonsense; to me, the meaning is sufficiently clear—

O king of heaven, with respect to her deeds, although she turn to ashes here, may her soul be heir to that country, which knows no sorrow.

Virgo, de fœmina conjugata. Encomium Emmæ Reginæ, p. 172. *Du Cange.* Cinerescere, in cinerem redigi. Tertull. Apol., cap. 40. *Ibid.*

Hawkshead, Nov. 12. D. B. H.

The society of polished men, like smooth iron roads, renders the journey of life more easy and agreeable; but that of unpolished men, like rough roads, makes all its ruts and inequalities painfully felt.

Margaret, Countess of Blessington.

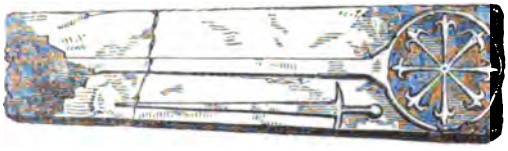
MONUMENTAL SCULPTURE AT FINHAVEN.

About a quarter of a mile eastward of the ruins of the Castle of Finhaven, on a rising ground at the junction of the rivers Lemno and Southesk, and at the foot of the famous vitrified fort, stood formerly the original parish church of Finhaven or Aikenhatt, in Forfarshire. It is supposed to have been dedicated to the Nine Maidens, whose festival is held on June 19, and the foundation appears to have been of a very early date, as it was rebuilt in 1380, and granted in free gift to the Cathedral of Brechin, by Sir Alexander Lindsay of Glenesk, father of the first Earl of Crawford. Tradition with its busy tongue, has hinted that Lindsay was induced to this bestowal on the church, in the hope of obtaining her propitiatory prayers for some rash acts committed by him, and that he imposed a further penance on himself by undertaking a pilgrimage to the Holy Land; certain it is, that while on his onward course thither he died 'apud insulam de Candey.'

The old church is mentioned in 1576, but being situated in a corner of the parish, a new church in a few years after appears to have been erected for greater convenience, at the village of Oathlaw, being near to the centre of the parochial bounds; and the old church demolished. It would seem to have been but a small building, having an aisle on the south side, and the floor paved with square glazed tiles of the three primary colours, red, blue, and yellow, similar to those used in the principal Cathedrals of the middle ages. The land

on which the church stood is now within the farm of Bogardo, and the immediate site of the church is staked out by a rustic railing. The holder of this farm in 1849, had the graveyard or old burying ground trenched, with a view of growing corn upon it, and during operations, the old tiled pavement of the church was discovered, and, also, two coffin slabs, one of which had entombed a man of arms; the other, one of the vicars of the parish. These monumental remains now lie within the railing, but no other vestige of the church is extant.

The first of these coffin covers, as here represented,



has the cross and sword incised, while the circular cross head decorated with the very unusual number of eight floriated points is executed in low relief. No example of this kind is described or figured in Boutell's Christian Monuments in England and Wales.* Of whom this mark of Christian remembrance was intended to commemorate, there is much perplexity of doubt—certainly it was not Sir Alexander Lindsay, or any of his descendants; he was buried where he died in the Isle of Candia, and none of his successors were interred at Finhaven till a comparatively late date. Lindsay's predecessors in the lordship of Finhaven are satisfactorily traced from the year 1250, when Cumyn, Earl of Buchan, then proprietor of the lands, and forester of the Royal Hunting Forest of Plater, within the boundary of which the lands and church of Finhaven were comprised, granted annually a certain surcharge out of them, to the monastery of Aberbrothoc. Philip, through whose boldness Robert the Bruce was enabled to capture the castle of Forfar from the English, was forester in 1308. Bruce's natural son, who fell at Dupplin, in 1332, held the same lands and office at the time of his death, and he was succeeded in them by Hew de Polayne, William Earl of Ross, and Sir David de Annand. This last was the immediate predecessor of Sir Alexander Lindsay, the rebuilder of the church.

To which, or, if to any of these earlier barons, the coffin lid pertains is alike matter of great uncertainty; the Annand family held possessions in the district for a longer period than any other, since they also possessed the lands of North Melgund in the adjoining parish of Aberlemno till 1542, when a female descendant sold them to Cardinal Beaton; but as this particular class of coffin slabs is ascribed to the fourteenth Century, it is possible, it may refer to either Philip the Forester, or to Sir David de Annand, as being the most likely of Sir Alexander Lindsay's predecessors who were buried at Finhaven.

The other slab found in the old burying ground at Finhaven, clearly indicates the status and character of the person it commemorates.

It is very rudely incised, and in much the same style of sculpture as the one at Cupar Angus, placed there in the year 1400, in memory of an old monk of that place On the margin left blank in the woodcut, in old English characters commencing above the head of the figure, the following inscription remains—

HIC IACET HONOVRABILIS VIR DNS RECHERD' BR. . . VICARIVS DE FINHEVYN QVI OBIIT 2º DIE

* To the labours of this able reverend antiquary, the Editor gladly refers; his Monumental Brasses of England, 1849; and his Christian Monuments, embodying descriptions of Slabs devoid of Effigies, and Semi-effigial Monuments, 1854, should be found in every gentleman's library: they may now be secured, but the day is near at hand, when they will be no longer procurable.

The stone has been much broken, and unfortunately that part containing the last letters of the surname is defaced and partly wanting, and what may be deemed singular, neither the month or year appear to have been chiselled to record his decease. The arms on the shield at the feet of the effigy appear to be a rude representation of those of the Bruce family, a conjecture based on an old monument to William Bruce of Earlshill at Leuchars, in Fifeshire, which has much the same arms, with a fleur de lis in chief for a difference. Possibly the vicar of Finhaven was a cadet of that ancient family, although, as from the following remarks it will be seen, I have failed to discover any one of that name as a prebendary of Finhaven.

The earliest recorded name of the parish priests of Finhaven, is that of John de Monte Alto, a cadet of a Norman family, who held the neighbouring lordship of Ferne, etc. He in 1379, was an attesting witness in the transfer of some contiguous lands, between his brother of Ferne and Sir Alexander Lindsay. John Knycht held the cure in 1435; and in 1474, John Lok was prebendary. In 1510, the office was held by Henry Quhyt (or White), who on the establishment of the College of Justice, in Scotland, in 1532, was one of its original members. According to Henry White's obitus, he died in June 1541, devising by his last will and testament, the revenues of certain properties towards the maintenance of a priest for saying masses for his soul, which were to be annually celebrated with lighted tapers, etc., on the Sabbath following the feast of All Saints, at the altar of St. Catherine, in the cathedral of Brechin. The names of subsequent prebendaries present nothing in elucidation of those of their predecessors, and in the absence of other confirmative evidence I am disposed to consider the slab with its effigy, as belonging to some vicar who officiated at Finhaven, in the intervening period between the time of Monte Alto and Knycht.

Brechin. A. J.

EARLY EDUCATION.—Choose l etimes the courses and vocations you mean your children should take, for then, they are most flexible; not regarding altogether the disposition of the children, as thinking they will take but to that to which they have a mind. It is true, that if the affection, or the aptness of the child be *extraordinary*, it would be wrong to cross it; but, generally, the precept will be found optimum elige; suave et facile illud faciet consuetudo—choose what is best, and custom will make it pleasant and easy.—*Bacon.*

COPERNICUS OPPOSED TO THE BIBLE.

LUTHER, in his Table Talk, notices—

I am now advertised that a new astrologer is risen who presumeth to prove that the earth moveth and goeth about—not the firmament; the sun and moon, not the stars—like as when one sitteth in a coach, or in a ship that is moved, thinketh he sitteth still and resteth; but the earth and trees do move and run themselves. Thus it goeth when we give up ourselves to our own foolish fancies and conceits. This fool (Copernicus) will turn the whole art of astronomy upside down; but, the Scripture showeth and teacheth another lesson, when Joshua commanded the sun to stand still, and not the earth.

HISTORY OF REYNARD THE FOX.

Goëthe's German version of the long celebrated and widely known fable or story of Reynard the Fox having been rendered popularly familiar by Mr. Arnold's translation, the general acceptance with which it has been welcomed, has induced the following remarks as illustrative of its history.

Enquiries of no common difficulty have occupied the attention of many erudite and learned men, and the origin of the story of Reynard the Fox, seems to be unearthed amid the fragrancy of Oriental literature; in the Anvár-i Suhailí, or the Lights of Canopus, the Persian version of the Fables of Pilpay; the original compilation of which was in Sanskrit, by Vishnu Sharman, whom, Sir William Jones asserts, we ridiculously call Pilpay. The author, or the work, appears however to have been named Bidpai, and possibly explains the cause of the misnomer. In the Sanskrit, or Persian, instead of the Fox, the Jackall is the hero of the tale, and the humour of the story is nearly evaporated by making the said hero a good and virtuous beast, instead of a bad and hypocritical one.

Whence or whatever may be the source of this fable or story, it certainly in its outline contains the germ of the extant History of Reynard the Fox; the second part of that history being in fact simply a skilfully diversified repetition of the first; both parts containing particulars of Reynard's disgrace, and subsequent pardon and favour.

Many opinions have been entertained and expressed as to the intention and purport of the story of Reynard the Fox; it is clearly a general satire upon all persons and things, and upon the clergy in particular, hence possibly its adoption and commendation by Luther. Grimm considers that in the earlier versions no genuine satire was intended, that is, so far as satire upon then existing persons or contemporary things. As an instance, he holds that the story of the Wolf's becoming a monk, had not originally a satirical allusion to the monks, but is a perversion arising from his being described as *grey*, and hence *old*, and in consequence called *grey coat*, etc. In the meaning of the names borne by the principal characters in the poem, Grimm observes these appellations are of three kinds—firstly, Animal names having a meaning in themselves, unlike names of men. Secondly, Proper names of men, given to animals on account of their meaning. Thirdly, Similar names given to animals with reference to some Historical Personages; though, as he says, it is not easy to distinguish between the second and third of these classes. These names have been appropriated to personages historically known, and have even been adopted with modifications by writers of

eminence, but these adaptations have generally exploded by reference to the chronology of the periods in which these persons supposed to be so personified existed. Grimm's opinions are notwithstanding entitled to much respect, as it must be confessed he has succeeded in satisfactorily disposing of various theories which have at times been advanced in elucidation of the allegorical meaning of the poem

Till Grimm took up the subject it was universally believed the Low German or Saxon poem, *Reynke de Vos*, printed at Lübeck, in 1498, in quarto, was the original story, while it was even then a diversified opinion whether the authorship rested with Heinreck von Alckmer,* or Nicholaus Baumann, writers who were said, or supposed to have lived at the close of the fifteenth or commencement of the sixteenth century; but this was an erroneous acceptation, the manuscript of a much earlier Flemish version, attributed to the middle of the thirteenth century, or earlier, was purchased by the Belgian Government, at the sale of Mr. Heber's library. The author of this Flemish version is said to have been named Willem die Madock (or Matoc), or Willem van Uterhoven. From this, a version in prose and verse was printed in quarto, by Gheraet Leeu at Gouda, in 1479; Caxton translated this volume and printed it in 1481, in one of the chapels attached to Westminster Abbey. Leeu's edition of *Die Historie van Reynaert de Vos* was again printed at Delft in Holland, in 1485, and amid the facilities proffered by the extension of the art of printing, translations in most of the continental tongues became disseminated, and created a generally extended ramification of the Reynardine fables. They are subsequently found in all languages, and editions of multitudinous places and dates—no story was more popular, it diverted childhood, pleased if it did not instruct those of maturer years, and was the amusement and solace of greatly advanced age.

Fashion and the quest of novelty during the eighteenth century seem to have caused a partial forgetfulness of Reynard by the generality of readers, till it was awakened by the pictorial display of stuffed animals sent by Hermann Ploucquet of Wurtemberg, to the memorable Exhibition in Hyde Park, in 1851, when several of the groups were in positions conformably to Kaulbach's Illustrations to Goëthe's poem of *Reineke Fuchs*. Admirable in themselves, they induced a more general attention to the story, and the several versions of it; to satisfy which, various publications have emanated, and elicited the certainty of the public desire to obtain a popular version, and one that should be deemed an ornament in the library. Mr. Arnold's translation is wholly based on Goëthe's poetical recital adopting the usual heroic couplet as the most familiar representative of the hexameters of his original, and in all respects is fully such as is required by the reading public; while the engravings from the designs of Mr. Joseph Wolf, are pre-eminently distinguished for their admirable excellence of artistic skill, and the generally forcible illustrations they render to the unequivocally broad Hudibrastic humour of the work.

* Alkmer was the author of the version printed in 1498, from its rarity long almost unknown. It was reprinted at Rostock, in 1517, without name of Editor or Printer. There were three subsequent editions, printed at the same place in 1522, 1539, and 1543, all in quarto, the former of these was edited by Baumann, and while the Lubeck edition was undiscovered, Baumann was by many held as the writer.

SCHOLA SALERNITANA.

The authority of Muratori, and of Gibbon, to prove who was the King of England to whom the verses of the Schola Salernitana were dedicated, having been more than once quoted, it may not be amiss to place before the readers of Current Notes who have taken an interest in the discussion, the words of these two celebrated authors, in order that they may of themselves judge of the credibility which their opinions invests the side to which they are really inclined. Muratori's words are—

Nel Secolo XI., la Città di Salerno singolarmente fiorì per l'Arte della Medicina, e abbondò d'uomini molto rinomati in essa: del che fa tuttavia testimonianza il Libro intitolato *La Scuola Salernitana*, che alcuni credono dedicato, circa l'anno 1099, a Roberto, figlio di Guglielmo Primo, Re d'Inghilterra; ma altri piu probabilmente a Edoardo Re d'essa Inghilterra, prima dell' anno 1066; giacchè la dedica del Libro il chiama Angliæ Regem. Fors'egli ricercò il parere di quei medici per conservare la Sanità; giacchè si grande era il credito di essa Città per la Medicina, che anche uomini di alto affare passavano in essa per isperanza di guarire i loro Mali.†

Gibbon's words, which are of similar import, may be thus quoted—

Salerno was enriched by the practice, the lessons, and the writings of Constantine, an African Christian, the pupil of Avicenna. The School of Medicine long slept at the name of a university; but her precepts are abridged in a string of aphorisms, bound together in the Leonine verses, or Latin rhymes of the twelfth century. Muratori carries their antiquity above the year 1066, that of the death of Edward the Confessor, the Rex Anglorum to whom they were addressed.*

Bristol, November 9. F. S. Donato.

Knipton.—What is the etymology of the word Knipton, the name of a village on the river Devon, in Leicestershire. It was anciently written Gniptone, or Cnypton.

Knipton, Nov. 20. W. Fletcher.

* Dissertazioni sopra le Antichità Italiane; Opera Postuma in Roma, 1755, 8vo., Tomo II., Dissert. 44.

† Decline of the Roman Empire, edit. 1825, vol. VII., p. 139.

THE BRONZE GALLEY AT SEBASTOPOL.

On the hill to the right of Fort Nicholas, which projects out into the harbour, as seen from the western heights of Sebastopol, towers prominently a majestic monumental trophy, surmounted by a bronze galley of elegant form and elaborate enrichment. Upon the entry of the allies, many were the conflicting assertions made respecting its purpose; by some it was heedlessly said to have been commemorative of the Empress Catherine; by others that it was a symbolic emblem of Sebastopol. The position of this magnificent structure was doubtless intended to serve for more than its apparent intention, and the following observations, forwarded by a respected correspondent, seem to proffer conjectures in aid of a very satisfactory elucidation.

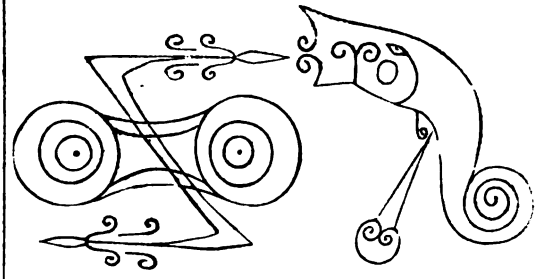
The bronze galley of Sebastopol is in all likelihood the Labarum of the Eastern Empire. Its origin was this. The Ark of Noah, that supernatural abode wherein wood, couched upon water, accomplished the rescue of our race, was the elected Symbol in the early Ages of the Visible Church; the place of safe sojourn for man, the exile upon Earth! Thus, the actual and the emblem shape of the Ark, graphic or graven, was that of the ancient vessel of every land, double prowed, to glide every way as the church would move; and crescent-formed, the Image of the Moon in her youth, that mystic Lady of the Sea! So was traced on Egyptian walls, the galley of Ogyges; and so in their marbles was shown the antique vessel of the Phœnicians and the Greeks, until the boat of Gennesaret took up and delivered onward the symbolic form to signify the Nave or the Church of the Apostles, on every shore and sea. Therefore, it was, that when Constantine framed his supernatural banner, he pourtrayed thereon a Crescent-ship lifted on high upon the stock and transome of a Cross, and underneath he wrote the legendary Promise of Victory from God, in such a sign—IN HOC, VINCE—the starry words he saw in dreams of night.

The word Labarum is a name of very harassed import among learned men, but the nearest approach to its origin appears to be traceable in the dialect of Armenia, and around Mount Ararat, where the vessel of Noah stood still. There, they to this day call the Ark "Baris," and possibly some Eastern prefix or change may constitute the total name. Be this as it may, we know that Constantine did lift the Labarum; that his Arkite Ensign was so called, and that it was a Church-crested Cross. What is more probable than that the Czar with his semi-Scythian, semi-Oriental trust in Imagery may have built that brazen galley to frown along the Western Sea, and to become, alas, the treacherous Labarum of his fatal war.

Morwenstow, Nov. 1. R. S. HAWKER.

INSCRIPTION ON A ROCK IN GALLOWAY.

I send the enclosed drawing of an Inscription on a rock in Anwoth parish, in Galloway, N.B., in the hope some of your Antiquarian correspondents may be able to give a solution of it. The characters are neatly and exactly executed, and are admitted by all who have seen them to be very ancient—



and though they seem to belong to Scotland, they are found in various places in this country, as at Keilor, Arbroath, and elsewhere, which shows they had a signification which was generally understood at the time they were chisell'd on the hoary rocks on which they remain as a puzzle and wonder to all who behold them.

Should any of your numerous readers be able to give a satisfactory explication of these characters, it will, I am sure, create much gratification to many in this part of the kingdom, and in particular to

Twynholm, Nov. 1. J. M.

FREDERICK THE GREAT AND TOTTLEBEN.

Considerable interest is at this moment attached in reference to the ancestry of General Tottleben, the able defender of Sebastopol by his masterly application of means for repelling the invincibility of the Allies. The following letter from Frederick the Great, addressed to the Grand Bailiff and the Burgomasters of Antwerp, in interest of one of his officers, Colonel Tottleben, appears to relate to the General's grandfather(?), who would seem to have been a Prussian. The whole is a love affair, sufficiently romantic in its commencement, but gradually involving the parties in an unpleasant situation. Colonel Tottleben had carried off the ward of some rich burgomaster of Amsterdam, who had designed her and her fortune for one of his own family. The Colonel is pursued and taken at Weimar, and every means used to bring him to destruction; he is incarcerated and tried for the offence, and would, without a defence, have been condemned, if some friend had not furnished him the means of procuring legal assistance, by which his case is

placed in its true light. It is shewn that the young lady, who was an orphan born in the East Indies, had been encloistered without receiving the education proper to her station, and treated harshly because she would not receive the husband proposed for her. The monarch enters into the detail of the case, and asserts that the Burgomasters unjustly charge Tottleben with having obtained the protection of his ministers by corruption, for that he was recommended to his notice by the same friend who had furnished him with the means of defence; and that after having investigated the original papers of the process, the King offered to become the mediator between the Colonel and the guardians of his wife, and to be trustee for the assurance of the whole principal of her fortune against all accidents; thinking that the young people had already been too much persecuted for an affair which has happened a thousand times without the same stir having been made.

MESSIEURS,—J'ai recu la lettre que vous m'avez ecrite en date du 23 Juillet passé, pour me prevenir contre le Colonel de Tottleben, et pour l'accuser de rechercher ma protection par des corruptions et par d' autres voyes illicites. Vous allegues en preuve une de ses lettres, que vous avez interceptée, et ou il remercie son Correspondant, de l'avoir mis en etat par ses avances de vaincre ses ennemis à Weimar, et de se procurer un acces salutaire à Berlin. Trouvez bon, que je vous dise, que je n'y saurois voir la noirceur, que vous pretendez y trouver. Vous avez fait poursuivre le Colonel de Tottleben jusqu'à Weimar, et vous l'avez fait encoffrer comme un criminel, pour une affaire, qui s'est pratiquée mille fois parmi vous, sans que vous vous soyez jamais avisés d'en faire tant de bruit, et de pousser les choses à des semblables extremités. Obligé donc de se defendre, le pouvoit il sans argent, tandisque vos commis en repandoient à pleines mains pour le ruiner? Sorti ensuite victorieux de l'accusation, que vous aviez intentée contre lui, par le secours d'un ami, qui a bien voulu risquer quelques avances, pour lui faire soutenir les fraix de la prison et de la procedure, faute de quoi, il n'auroit jamais pû ni se justifier, ni se rendre ici, n'est il pas naturel, et dans l'ordre, qu'il en marque sa reconnoissance à son bienfaiteur et qu'il avouë, que c'est à ses secours, qu'il est redevable de sa victoire à Weimar, et du bon accueil qu'il a trouvé à Berlin. Car quant aux corruptions, dont vous le chargez d'avoir voulû user auprès de mes ministres, je suis bien aise de vous avertir, que ceuxci n'entrent absolument pour rien dans l'affaire du dit Colonel, et que ce n'est ni par leur canal, ni sur leur rapports, que j'en ai pris connoissance, mais que cet officier s'etant addressé immediatement à moi pour demander ma protection, je ne la lui ai accordée, qu'apres, qu'il ni eut mis devant les yeux les pieces originales du procès de Weimar. C'est là que j'ai compris clairement, qu'il n'est question dans cette affaire, ni de rapt, ni d'enlevement, comme il vous plait de le qualifier, et que tout ce qu'on peut reprocher au Colonel de Tottleben, c'est d'avoir sauvé une orfeline etrangere, qui l'en avoit solicité elle même et qui s'etoit jettée de pleingré entre ses mains, pour se soustraire, elle et son bien, à la cupidité de ses Tuteurs, qui l'avoient sequestrée du commerce du monde, et comme encloitrée, sans lui donner meme une education convenable à son etat uniquement pour s'accommoder de ses richesses, en la donnant à quelcun de leur Famille, pour lequel elle avoit une aversion insurmontable. S'il l'a epousée ensuite, cela s'est fait de son libre consentement, et avec toutes les formalités, qui rendent le marriage valide en tout païs du monde. L'unique defaut qu'on pourroit y objecter, c'est celui du consentement des Tuteurs: Mais outre que selon vos propres loix, ce consentement n'est pas d'une necessité absoluë, et que les Tuteurs ne peuvent pas le refuser, à moins d'alleguer des raisons tres graves, contre la personne de l'epoux, il est à observer, que les deux epoux sont tout a fait estrangeres à vôtre egard, que l'epouse etant née aux Indes, ne s'est jamais fait inscrire au nombre de vos habitans, que si vous l'avez considerée, comme sujette de votre ville, cette sujettion n'a eté que temporaire, et n'a pu avoir de force, que durant le tems, qu'elle y a demeuré, et que ce lien cesse naturellement dés qu'elle transporte d'ailleurs son domicile l'administration de ces biens par la chambre des orfelins ne l'attachant pas plus à vos loix, que tant d'autres etrangers, qui ont du bien dans votre banque, et dans vos autres fonds publics. Supposé neantmoins, que vous croyiez avoir des raisons, pour obliger les deux Epoux à se conformer à vos loix, ils ne seront pas difficulté de s'y soumettre, et comme ils m'ont representé, que le credit de leur partie, dont la superiorité ne s'est manifesté que trop dans toute la procedure, les empechoit de comparoitre personnellement, et que par la meme raison aucun Avocat ni Procureur n'oseit se charger, de leurs interets, c'est sur leurs instances, que j'ai chargé et autorisé mon Intendant des Domaines le Sr. Douglas de faire toutes les demarches, que vos ùs et coutumes exigent pour legaliser le mariage en question, aussi bien que de convenir avec vous, en y interposant même mon nom, s'il le faut, de toutes les precautions, que vous jugerez necessaires, par rapport au bien de la femme du Colonel de Tottleben, de maniere que son Capital lui reste assuré contre toutes sortes d'evenements. Comme cet arrangement satisfait et remedie à toutes les objections, qu'on a faites jusqu'ici contre le marriage en question, je me promets de vôtre equité, que vous vous y preterez avec plaisir, et que vous rendrez prompte et impartiale justice aux deux Epoux, qui n'ont que trop souffert jusqu' ici par les persecutions de leur partie. Vous augmenterez par là la reputation de sagesse, et d'integrité, que vous vous etes acquis à juste titre, et vous ne laisserez pas de m'obliger tres particulierement, et de m'engager à m'employer avec plaisir toutes les fois, que je trouverai occasion de contribuer à vôtre satisfaction et à vos avantages. Sur ce je prie Dieu de vous avoir en sa sainte et digne garde. à Berlin 3 Aout, 1751.

Subsequently, as Count Tottleben, he is mentioned frequently in the history of the wars of that period; and appears to have entered into the Russian service. A portrait before the writer is designated, Le Comte de Totleben, General d'Armée au service de S.M.I. de Russie, etc.

SONNET ON LOSS OF LIBRARY.

Shortly after the unfortunate accident, the destruction of his Library, mentioned in the notice of the Biographer of Camoens, in Current Notes, p. 79., Mr. Adamson sent to me the following sonnet, in which, while lamenting his loss, he exhibits his happy disposition to find something consolatory in the most adverse circumstances.

ON THE DESTRUCTION OF MY BOOKS BY FIRE.

Farewell, Companions of each passing year
Which o'er my head has roll'd. Ye cannot feel
The pangs which o'er my broken spirit steal;
Ashes are ye, while I indulge a tear.
To you I look'd in sad affliction's hour,
When illness press'd, in you I sought relief,
And oft have felt th' influence of your pow'r,
Assuaging sickness or consoling grief.
'Tis solace to me that in earlier time,
When my eyes feasted on your various lore,
The dire calamity was kept in store,
And the blow struck when I was past my prime.
'Twas willed by Him who judges what is fit—
'Twere impious to repine, 'tis duty to submit.

April 27, 1849. JOHN ADAMSON.

I take the opportunity of adding that Mr. Adamson's acquirements as a numismatist were very extensive, whether measured by his acquaintance with ancient coins, or by his collections of them. His account of the Anglo-Saxon Stycas found at Hexham, Archæologia, 1834, vol. XXV., pp. 279-310; and vol. XXVI., pp. 346-348, contains representations of about two thousand of these interesting relics of bygone ages.

Caermarthen, Nov. 9. GWILYM GLAN TYWI.

THUNDER STORMS ON GREAT DEATHS.

Can such things be,
And overcome us, like a summer-cloud,
Without our special wonder?

Quoniam non est nobis colluctatio adversus carnem et sanguinem, sed adversus Principates et Potestates, adversus Mundi Rectores tenebrarum harum, contra Spiritualia Nequitiæ, in Celestibus.—*Ephes.* ch. vi. v. 12.

When in 1658, the Protector Cromwell lay a dying, there came on a mad and ruthless storm suddenly. Cataracts of rain beat upon roof and wall, lightning fell in floods, fierce thunder rolled around the palace where he groaned, and trees, the growth of ages were struck down as by a blow. "Behold!" said his Friends, "the rush of Archangels to marshal into Paradise my Lord's illustrious soul!" "Mark!" said his Enemies, "how the Demons of the air battle for the mastery of his spirit, and assemble to grasp it, when it glides away!" Thus wrote Waller—

We must resign! Heaven his great soul will claim,
In storms as loud as his Immortal Fame,
His dying breath, his last sighs shake our Isle
And Trees uncut fall for his Funeral Pile!
Around his palace their broad roots are tost
Into the air—thus Romulus was lost.

* * * *

He is not dead, he breathes the air
In lands beyond the deep,
Some distant sea girt Island, where
Harsh men the Hero keep.

Long generations! There is a bleak grim guarded Island of the main; a lonely rock, but vast, girded and imprisoned by the solitary sea. The hour is at hand, and the doom. The captive Emperor Napoleon must die. A sudden and supernatural tempest roars along the deep, lightnings rush, thunder boomed and crashed afar off and nigh; the voices of those who watched by that awful couch could hardly be heard; but in the pauses of that storm, there came ever and anon from the throat of the dying, the shout of battle, and the signals of the old command. At length, as his spirit passed away, and as though it rushed to meet the unseen armies of the air, his voice sounded like a Trumpet, TETE D'ARMÉE! To THE FRONT, he said, and thus, Napoleon died.

* * * *

And move
In hearts all rocky once, the late remorse of Love.

Long years! long years! The sinews of Old England that strove so fiercely in the Belgian field are summer dust! There is joy aloud in France! Shouts in the Gallic City, for the Daughter of English Kings leans on the arm of the Frank caressingly. Amid these multitudes, the corpse of Napoleon the Exile, returned to triumphant rest, rules them from his dust as from a Throne. His descendant, the avenger of his race; he who wears his very name, he and none other, must lead the Lady of England to stand in homage at the tomb of his ancestor. They pause at the threshold of that sepulchre, an Emperor and a Queen! Hearken! the sound as of angry waters gathers in the sky; once more lightnings leap, thunder cleaves the air like the charge of demon battalions. Is it the sympathy, or the wrath of invisible armies? The gratulation, or the trouble of the conscious dead?

In the notice of the Queen's recent visit to the tomb of the Emperor Napoleon, it is stated—

The weather, which looked very theatening during the progress of the review, fortunately continued fair, until it had terminated; but then, the rain descended in torrents, and it was in the middle of a thunder-storm, that the Emperor took his guests to the Hospital of the Invalides, there to visit the tomb of the First Napoleon.

Morwenstow. R. S. HAWKER.

The German motto, in Current Notes, page 75, col. 1, should have been printed thus—

Wer nicht Lust hat zu schönen Pferds,
Ein blankes Schwerdt,
Ein schoenes Weib,
Hat kein Soldatenherz im Leib.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor has, from want of space, been compelled to omit several most interesting articles, which will appear next month.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LX.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [DECEMBER, 1855.

THE DOOM-WELL OF ST. MADRON.

"Plunge thy right hand in St. Madron's spring!
If true to its troth be the palm you bring;
But if a false sigil thy fingers bear,
Lay them the rather on the burning share."

Loud laughed King Arthur when as he heard
That solemn Friar, and his boding word:
And blithely he sware, as a king he may,
"We tryst for St. Madron's at break of day!"

"Now horse and hattock, both but and ben,"*
Was the cry at Laud's, with Tintadgel men;
And forth they pricked upon Roughtor† side
As goodly a raid as a King could ride.

Proud Guenever rode like a Queen of the land,
With page and with squire at her bridle hand;
And the twice six Knights of the Stony Ring,
They girded and guarded their Cornish King.

Then they halted their steeds at St. Madron's cell,
And they stood by the Priest at the cloister'd well—
"Now off with your gauntlets," King Arthur he cried,
"And glory or shame for our Tamar-side!"

'Twere sooth to sing how Sir Gawain smiled,
When he grasp'd the waters so soft and mild;
How Sir Launcelot dash'd the glistening spray,
O'er the rugged beard of the rough Sir Kay.

Sir Bevis he touched, and he found no fear;
'Twas a benitee stoup to Sir Belvidere.
How the fountain flash'd o'er King Arthur's Queen,
Say, Cornish Dames, for ye guess the scene.

"Now rede me my riddle, Sir Mordred, I pray,
My kinsman, my ancient, my bien-aimé;
Now rede me my riddle, and rede it aright,
Art thou trait'rous Knave, or my trusty Knight?"

He plunged his right arm in the Judgment-Well,
It bubbled and boiled like a cauldron of hell!
He drew, and he lifted his quivering limb,
"Ha! Sir Judas! how Madron had sodden him!"

Now, let Uter Pendragon do what he can,
Still the Tamar river will run as it ran;
Let King and let Kaisar be fond or be fell,
Ye may harowe their troth in St. Madron's Well.

Morwenstow. R. S. HAWKER.

* The old phrase for butlery and hall.
† Sounded Rowtor, the o open as in brow.

MADRON WELL.

In Current Notes, p. 85, Mr. Pattison says the Madron Well near Penzance "was in repute at the time of the Civil War." The following testimony to this fact, by no less a distinguished person, than the pious Bishop Hall, the bishop of the diocese in which that well is situated, may interest your readers. In his Treatise on the Invisible World, Book I., Sect. viii., he says—

The trade that we have with good spirits is not now driven by the eye, but is like to themselves, spiritual; yet not so but that even in bodily occasions we have many times insensible helps from them in such manner, as that, by the effects, we can boldly say, Here hath been an Angel, though we saw him not. Of this kind was that no less than miraculous cure, which at St. Maderne's (S. Maternus) in Cornwall, was wrought upon a poor cripple, on John Trelille; whereof besides the attestations of many hundreds of the neighbours, I took a strict and personal examination in that last visitation (at Whitsuntide) which I either did or shall hold. This man, that for sixteen years together was fain to walk upon his hands, by reason of the close contraction of the sinews of his limbs, was, upon three monitions in his dream, to wash in that well, suddenly so restored to his limbs, that I saw him able both to walk and to get his own maintenance. I found here was neither art nor collusion; the thing done, the Author invisible.

The visitation to which Bishop Hall refers was in 1641, just before his removal to Norwich.

Brampford Speke, Dec. 3. G. C. GORHAM.

On the opinions and questions propounded by Mr. Pattison, in reference to Madron Well, I will make some remarks. Few of these structures have been more frequently described: none of the County and Local historians omit making mention of it, and many either transcribe or allude to the poem written by Bishop Hall, entitled "The Great Mysterie of Godlinesse," describing "the miraculous cure of the poore cripple," through the agency of its waters. It was probably erected at a very early date, and when the Roundhead zealots, Ceeley and Shrubshall, now more than two hundred years since, destroyed this and other similar buildings, the state in which they left it, continues apparently much the same to this day. I am inclined to think that the appellation of "the holy" well may be in this instance a misnomer, however sacred it may have been as a baptistery, which it was undoubtedly; and that the real Madron Well will be found about a gunshot N. W. of the baptistery, on the same moor. The excavation in the S. W. angle of the building would seem to have been used as a font, the water

being supplied from the running stream above— the waste water being carried off by a gutter along the western side in the interior, that is still remaining.

This excavation, it is not unlikely, may have been filled with water at the will of the officiating priest, and in that superstitious age, recourse may have been had to some sleight of hand; as in the interior of the building every drop of water, in the summer, dries up; but, in the winter, there is great difficulty in entering it, from its being then completely flooded. The stream which supplies the water is conducted by an artificial channel to the town of Penzance, and was at one time, for that purpose, the only source.

The stone benches are in a comparatively perfect state; but that the large granite slab now at the east end, was really an altar-stone, has been doubted; I am, however, from its resemblance to a stone which lies within the ruins of a small baptistery near the once celebrated Holy Well, at the Gurnard's Head in Zennor, disposed to think that it was an altar stone. The cavity in this stone is too shallow to have received the shaft of a cross, but possibly, as it has been supposed, the offerings of the piously devout were therein deposited.

With regard to the northern position of the door, I would refer Mr. Pattison to Parc-au-Chapel, near Cape Cornwall, in the parish of St. Just, where in like manner the door faces the north; and whatever may be the Satanic influences attributed to this quarter, they appear to have had no deference from the people, for, to this day, the old building at Madron is visited by persons with weak eyes, who, like the devotees of old, having faith in the efficacy of the water, pass its threshold to wash their eyes, and then place their votive rags on the bushes around and within. The washing doubtless does them good, cleanliness being the chief agent with eyes which otherwise would never be washed.

When the Chapel of the Mount was constructed, there can be no doubt the reputed dungeon was made at the same time; it has hitherto been considered as a vault, and may have received the body of a priest; but no reason is apparent why a priest should conceal himself there, at a time when the priesthood were dominant. Several other hypotheses have obtained currency— Pomeroys having of himself bled to death there; the incarceration of some state prisoners, and other circumstances, all of which are fully related in the histories of this interesting old place.

Exon, Dec. 8. H. A. C.

Robert Bunyan, Esq. the last male descendant in a direct line from JOHN BUNYAN, the author of the celebrated allegory, "The Pilgrim's Progress," first printed in 1678; died on Nov. 27 last, at his residence, Grecian Place, Lincoln, aged 80.

The library of Dr. Routh, President of Magdalen College, Oxford, comprising more than twenty thousand volumes, bequeathed by him to the University Library, Durham, has now reached its destination.

SARDINIAN MOTTO F. E. R T., EXPLAINED.

The earliest occurrence of the initials F. E. R. T. on the coins of Savoy, appears to be on those of Amadeus VII., Count of Savoy, 1383-91. See the work by D. Promis, entitled Monete dei Reali di Savoiæ, Torino, 1841, 4to. vol. ii., pl. v. fig. 4. The earliest specimen in the British Museum illustrative of this fact, is of Amadeus VIII., Count of Savoy, 1391, and what the letters F. E. R. T., were intended to imply has long been a *questio vexata*.

On the occasion of the visit of Victor Emanuel, King of Sardinia, to Guildhall, on Tuesday, the 4th inst. to receive the congratulatory address of the Lord Mayor and Citizens of London, the throne, overshadowed by a cleverly designed canopy supported by gilded Caryatides, is described as standing on a dais, raised four steps high, and covered with rich blue velvet, having embroidered upon it, in the manner of the Imperial Bee in France, the Sardinian knot, and the initials F. E. R. T. supposed to imply—

FORTITVDO EJVS RHODIVM TENVIT.

This interpretation, which is M. Pericaud's, refers to the part taken by Savoy, in the succour of Rhodes, in 1523, but as before that event these letters were common to the Princes of that illustrious house, some other definition seems to be required. On the reverse of one of the gold coins of Victor Amadeus I., 1630-37, are four loveknots, placed in the form of a cross, in the centre of which is the shield of Savoy. They are alternate with four groups of hands interlaced, encircled by the legend—

FŒDERE ET RELIGIONE TENEMVR.

Supplying a definite and satisfactory explanation of the meaning of the letters F. E. R. T., so long and so frequently a matter of dispute.

KNIGHT'S FEE AND KNIGHT'S SERVICE.

Rummaging lately over some old deeds, I have been puzzled to make out what is implied by a Knight's Fee, and by Knight's service. I however give the sentences in which they occur—

Robert Fitzralph gave the manor to be held by the fourth part of a knight's fee.

William Lord Ross died seized of half a quarter of a knight's fee of the king in capite.

——Stonesby died seized of the manor held by the king, as of his Honor of Leicester, by knight's service.

And if yourself, or any reader of Current Notes, could explain the matter, I should feel much obliged.

December 7. A. J. A.

A knight's fee anciently denoted so much inheritance as was sufficient to maintain a knight.

Knight service was an ancient tenure, by which several lands in this realm were held of the king, so that it drew after it Homage, etc., but this and all other tenures were abolished 12 Car. II., cap. 24.

EARLY EDITIONS OF AMADIS DE GAUL.

SIR,—The uncertain notices which are found in Brunet, respecting the earlier editions of this celebrated romance, have induced me to offer you some particulars of the following editions which are in the Library at Middle Hill.

The several portions of this famous Romance describe in the first four books, the Exploits of Amadis de Gaul; the fifth book, those of his son, Esplandian; the sixth, those of Don Florisando; the seventh, those of Lisuarte de Grecia and Perion de Gaula; the eighth also relates to Lisuarte de Grecia; the ninth, to Amadis de Grecia; the tenth, to Florisel de Niquea; the eleventh, to Rogel de Grecia; and the twelfth, to Selves de la Selva.

Brunet quotes the edition of the FIRST FOUR books, printed at Salamanca, in 1519, as the first, though one printed in the same city, in 1510, is noticed under the word Vasco de Lobeyra, in the Summario de la Bibl. Lusitana. That at Middle Hill is dated 1521, printed in black letter, excepting the title, which is in red; on the upper part of the page is—"Amadis de Gaula;" and at the bottom—"Los quatros libros del virtuoso cavallero Amadis de Gaula: Complidos." On the 298th folio, is this colophon—

Acabanse los quatro libros del esforçado y muy virtuoso cavallero Amadis de Gaula &c. Fuerō emprimidos en la muy noble, y muy leal ciudad de Caragoça: por George Coci Alemā—Acabarōse a. XXX. dias del mes de Julio, nel año del nascimiento de nuestro Salvador Jesu Christo, de mil y quinientos y veynte uno.

On the following page, commences the Table which occupies three leaves; the whole volume comprises three hundred and two leaves.

The title of the FIFTH book is also printed in red, except the figure of Esplandian on horseback, which, with the border is black, having at the top—"Las Sergas de Esplādian;" and at the foot—

El ramo que de los quatro libros de Amadis sale: llamado Las Sergas de Esplādian, hijo de Amadis de gaula. Las quales fueron escriptas por mano del maestro Helizabad, por bue fuessen magnifiestos los grandes hechos que en armas hizo: segun q̄ en el presente libro se cuenta. MDXXVI.

Of the above the date only is in black letter, and is placed below the border. The Table precedes the work, and the whole consists of 126 leaves. On the verso of folio 125, is the colophon—

Acaban se las sergas de Esplandian, hijo del muy esforçardo y virtuoso Cavallero Amadis de Gaula, y fueron corregidas y trasladados por el muy honrado y muy virtuoso cavallero Garcia gutierrez de montalvo, Regidor de Medina del Cāmpo, que los quatro libros de Amadis assimésmo corregio y enmedo. Deo gratias.

Then follow on the recto of folio 126, some verses by "Alōso de proaza, corretor de la Obra, al lector," beginning thus, "Los claros ingenios que quierē saber." At the conclusion of these verses, follows the colophon—

Fue impressa la presente obra en la muy noble y muy mas leal ciudad de Burgos a costa y espēsa de Juā de Jutā, Florentin. Acabo se a quinze dias del mes de Mayo. Año del nacimiento de nuestro Salvador Jesu Christo de mil y quinientos y veynte seys años.

An edition of the SIXTH book, Don Florisando, printed so early as 1510, is known, but excepting in a small edition, this portion is not among those at Middle Hill.

Brunet notices an edition of the SEVENTH book, Lisuarte di Grecia y Perion de Gaula, printed by the brothers Cromberger, at Seville, in 1525; but Antonio states his belief that this portion was printed at an earlier date. The edition at Middle Hill is that printed at Saragoça, in 1587, which, being so late in the century, and not in black letter, I do not describe.

The Title of the EIGHTH book, Lisuarte de Grecia, containing the death of Amadis de Gaula, is printed in red, except the portraits and border and the statement of the death of Amadis, which is placed in mourning, by being printed in black letter. The title contains six portraits. In the centre, Amadis is seated enthroned; Esplandian on his right, Lisuarte on his left. Under Esplandian, is Galaor; under Amadis, is Amadis de Grecia, and under Lisuarte is Florestan. Below these is the Title—

El octavo libro de Amadis: que trata de las estrañas aventuras y grandes proezas de su nieto Lisuarte: y de la muerte del inclito rey Amadis. MDXXVI. This date is printed in red.

The Prologue commences thus—

Prologo del octavo libro d'amadis de gaula. Dirigido al illustrissimo Señor el Señor dō Jorge hijo del invictissimo rey dō Juā el segundo de Portogal, maestro de Vis y santiago: duque de Coimbra, señor de mōtemayor el viejo, y torres novas, y de las Behetrias. Fecho por Juan diaz bachiller en canones.

Diaz in this prologue states, that Esplandian is the fifth part of Amadis de Gaul; Florisando, the sixth; and that Perion* and Lisuarte follow. At folio 220, is this colophon—

Fenece el octavo libro de Amadis. En el qual se trata de los-valientes fechos en armas del-cavallero Lisuarte di Grecia hijo del Emperador Esplandian y assi mesmo se trata de la muerte del muy esclarecido rey Amadis. Fue sacado de lo Griego y Toscano en Castellano por Juan diaz bachiller en canones. Fue impresso en la muy noble y leal ciudad de Savilla por Jacobo cromberger aleman† y Juan cromberger. Acabose a. XXV. de Setiembre Año de mil y quinientos y veynte y seys.

The Table occupying three leaves follows, and the volume wholly comprises 223 leaves.

Amadis de Grecia, is the subject of the NINTH book, which is in two parts, the whole containing 232 leaves. The title is printed in red, excepting those words here denoted in italics, the date, the portrait and border.

El noveno libro de *Amadis d' Gaula:* que es la cronica del muy valiēte y esforçado principe y cavallero de la ardiente espada *Amadis de Grecia:* hijo de *Lisuarte de Grecia:* Emperador de Constantinopla y de Trapisonda: y rey de Rodas, que tracta de los sus grandes hechos en armas, y de los sus altos y estraños amores. MDXLII.

* From this it appears to me that the proper title to the seventh Book is "Perion de Gaula."

† This James Cromberger subsequently went to Mexico, and printed the first book in that kingdom, a copy of which is in the library at Middle Hill.

The heading to the Prologue is a repetition to the word 'amores' of the Title, and is thus continued:

Segun que los escrivio el gran sabio en las magicas Alquife. Nuevamente hallado y emendado de algunos vocablos que por la antiquedad estavan corrompidos. Por Feliciano de Silva corregidos. Dirigida al illustrissimo Señor Dō Diego de Mendoça Duque del infantazgo conde del real: marquis de Santillana; señor de las casas de la Vega.

On the Title to the second part, s added—

La qual fue sacada de griego en latin, y de latin en romance segun que la escrivio el gran sabio Alquife en las magicas, etc.

And the colophon to this states—

Fenesce el noveno libro de Amadis de Gaula: que es la Coronica del muy valiente, etc. (as in Title;) y rey de Rodas. Fue impresso en la muy noble y muy leal cibdad de Sevilla en las casas de Jūa crōberger q̄ dios perdone. Acabose a veynte y siete dias dl mes de Junio. Año del Señor de mil y quinientos y quarenta y dos años bispera de Señor Sant Juan.

Florisel de Niquea, in four parts, is considered to constitute the TENTH book, but I have seen no early edition in which it is positively stated to be so. The earliest edition of the first two parts at Middle Hill, is that printed at Saragoça in 1584, which are not in black letter. The third part is in black letter, and the title is printed in red, excepting the names here indicated in italics under the portrait, and the portrait.

El tercera parte de la Coronica del muy excelente Principe Dō *Florisel de Niquea*, en la qual trata de las grandes hazañas de los excelentissimos Principes dō Rogel *de Grecia y el segundo Agesilao*, hijos de los excelentissimos principes dō *Florisel de Niquea y Don Falanges de Astra.*

The Prologue commences with the word "Prohemio," and after reciting the above words of the Title, continues—

La qual fue corregida por Feliciano de Silva de algunos errores que en la trasladacion que se hizo del Griego en latin por el gran hystoriador Falistes campaneo avia, va dirigida al Illustrissimo señor Don Francisco de Zuñiga de Soto Mayor, Duque de Bejar, etc.

Colophon. Acabose la Choronica de los vitoriosos y invencibles Cavalleros Don Rogel de grecia: y el segudo Agesilao hijos, *etc.* [as in Title] la qual fue corregida por Feliciano de Silva, *etc.* Impressa en la ynsigne ciudad de Evora en casa de los erederos de Andres de Burgos.

No date. It contains 285 leaves, in black letter.

The title of the fourth part of Don Florizel, in two parts, is printed partly in red; on the top is "Don Florizel de Niquea," in red; and at the bottom of the plate, under the portrait, the black part in italics—

La Primera Parte *de la quarta de la Choronica de el excellentissimo* Principe Don Florisel de Niquea, *que fue escripta en Grigeo por* Galersis, *fue sacada en Latin por* Philastes Campaneo, *y traduzida en Romance Castellano por* Feliciano de Silva.

The preface is dedicated to the Queen. The half-title repeats the Title, then follows—

Dirigida—a la Reyna Doña Maria hija del a C.C.M. el Emperador don Carlos, etc., y muger del—Rey Maximiliano hijo del—Señor Don Fernando Rey de Ungria.

Impresso en Caragoça por Pierres de la Floresta, Año de 1568,

This copy at Middle Hall is not in black letter.

Unless the ELEVENTH book is formed from the third and fourth parts of Don Florizel, we have no other knowledge of it.

The title of the TWELFTH book, Don Silves de la Selva, excepting the proper names, is printed in red. On a scroll, above the portrait, in black letter, is, "Dō Silves de la Selva;" and at the foot is the following—

Comiēça la dozena parte del invencible cavallero *Ama dis de Gaula*, Que tracta de los grande hechos en armas del esforcado Cavallero *don Silves de la Selva* con el fin de las guerras Ruxianas. Junto con el nacimiento de los temidos Cavalleros *Esferamundi, y Amadis de Astra.* y Assi mismo de los dos esforçados principes *Fortunian y Astrapolo.* Dirigido al Illustrissimo señor *don Luys Ponce de Leon.* Duque de Arcos, Marques de Zahara, Conde de Casares, señor de la leal villa de Marchena, etc.

The colophon ends—

Aqui se acaba la dozena parte del esforcado cavallero Amadis de gaula, que trata de los grandes hechos en armas del principe Don Silves de la selva: junto con el fin de las crueles guerras Ruxianas: y del nacimiēto de los principes Espheramundi: y Amadis de astra: con los nacimientos de otros estremados principes y hermosas infantas.

Fue impresso el presente libro: en la muy noble y muy leal ciudad de Sevilla: por Dominico de Robertis. Acabose a seys dias del mes de Noviembre: Año del nacimiēto de nostro salvador d' MDXLVI.

This volume is in black letter, and contains 150 leaves.

The above editions are all in folio and black letter, except Book 7 and Parts 1, 2, and 4 of Book 10. I will collect as well as I can the dates of all the editions prior to 1600, and send them to you for your next Number. The 13th book contains the Acts of Espheramundus and Amatis de Astra, but this is not at Middle Hill.

Middle Hill, Dec. 2. T. P.

STERNE'S GRAVE.—Passing this morning by the burial ground of St. George's, Hanover Square, in Tyburnia, I was induced to ask permission to visit Laurence Sterne's grave, which was instantly conceded; and was directed to the west side, that it was close by a tree, and near the wall, over which an opening between some houses in the adjoining mews would serve as a guide. To my astonishment, the grave-stone was in the most perfect order, and on enquiry was informed the whole had been restored within the last three years, the expences having been borne by a shilling subscription, of which one of the curates, named Peate, had been the instigator.

It is to be regretted that on this occasion the error in the inscription was not amended. Sterne died, as faithfully recorded in Current Notes, 1854, p. 31, on March 18, 1768; on the head stone it is inscribed he "Died Sept. 13, 1768." The words at the commencement, "Near this place lyes the Body," excites feelings no less of sorrow than pain on recurring to the circumstances which are so fully noticed in Current Notes as above quoted. Sterne was buried here on March 22; but in the night of the 24th some resurrectionists took up the corpse, and transmitted it as a subject for the dissection room of Cambridge University.

Shepherd's Bush, Dec. 1. A SHANDYITE.

MISAPPLICATION OF NATURAL INTELLECT.

Personal, political, and other causes have induced in parents and superiors, a frequent appropriation of persons to appointments and callings to which their minds were in no way disposed, and the glories arising from the conceptions and labours of the brightest intellects have been thus in many instances lost to the world. Dante, in his Paradiso, Canto viii, al fine, thus expatiates—

Sempre natura se fortuna trova
Discorde a sè, come ogni altra semente,
Fuori di sua region, fa mala prova ;
E, se il mondo quaggiù ponesse mente
Al fondamento, che natura pone,
Seguendo lui, avria buona la gente.
Ma voi torcete alla religione
Tal che fu nato a cingersi la spada,
E fate Re di tal ch' è da sermone:*
Onde la traccia vostra è fuor di strada.

Cary has admirably translated these lines—

Nature ever,
Finding discordant fortune, like all other seed
Out of its proper climate, thrives but ill;
And were the world below content to mark,
And work on the foundation Nature lays,
It would not lack supply of excellence.
But ye perversely to religion strain
Him, who was born to gird on him the sword ;
And of the fluent phraseman you make your king:
Therefore your steps have wander'd from the paths.

The quotation of these full of meaning verses of Dante, is not intended as a contrast to Bacon's wise precept offered to the readers of Current Notes, p. 88 ; but rather as a corollary to his words, if the affection, or the aptness of the child be extraordinary, it would be wrong to cross it.

Bristol, Dec. 1. F. S. DONATO.

The Epitaph noticed in Current Notes, p. 85, by M. J., is thus found in a Collection, but not stated whence derived.

O cruel Death! how could you be so unkind
As to take He, and leave She behind?
If one, why not t'other?
Which would have been more agreeable to the survivor!

Lincoln's Inn, Dec. 15. J. L. R.

In Fort William kirkyard, is the following singular Epitaph :

Sacred to the memory of Captain Patrick Campbell, late of the 42nd regiment, who died on the 13th December, 1816, aged eighty-three years.

A true Highlander,
A Sincere Friend,
And the best deer stalker of his day.

* Dante truly by these words 'tal ch' è da sermone,' implied a priest, a friar, a preacher, and the meaning of the last words is, 'your steps wander from the path,' that is, they wander still.

EARLY MERCHANTS MARKS.

Merchants marks are fanciful rebuses assumed in past ages by traders as distinctive marks on their bales destined for exportation, and proffer in many instances elaborate and very complex combinations of letters and characteristic forms. Mr. W. C. Ewing has ably described above three hundred of the merchants marks of Norwich ; and Mr. Harrod in his Notes on the Records of the Corporation of Great Yarmouth, has incidentally noticed about thirty belonging to that place.

Possibly by noticing the enclosed devices on rubbings from the original brasses of merchants marks, on their monumental mementoes in the several churches in Ipswich, it may induce others to observe them elsewhere, and some information respecting others might be elicited in Current Notes.

In the north aisle of the church of St. Mary Tower, on the brass of Thomas Drayle, Portman ; who died in 1500; is the following—

On another brass in the south aisle of the same Church, is an inscription to Alys late wyfe of Thomas Baldry, merchant; sometyme the wyfe of Master Robert Wymbyll, Notary, which Alys deceased 21 day of August, 1506.

Thomas Baldry was thus evidently the second husband of Madame Alice, and his mark impaling firstly the mercer's arms was thus ostensibly placed on her consignment to Hades.

In the chancel of the church of St. Mary Key, is the brass of Thomas Pownder, Merchant and Bailiff, who died November 7, 1525. Shaw has described this brass, bearing on the dexter side the arms of Ipswich; and on the sinister side, those of the Company of Merchants Adventurers.

In the same church is another brass to Augustin Parker, who died March 12, 1590, aged 63.

A clear instance where the husband and the wife's initials are embodied in the same device, occurs in the church of St. Nicholas, on the brass to Susanna Parker, wife of Augustin Parker, who died August 13, 1664, aged 24. This brass bears also the arms of the Merchants Adventurers and the Grocers' Company.

The Parkers were apparently of the same family.

Lee Road, Blackheath, Dec. 5. J. J. H.

DUCKING STOOL FOR SCOLDS IN SCOTLAND.

In the early Sessional Records of Brechin, is the following notice of the Cucking or Ducking stool for scolds—

1616, Nov. 19. Margaret Watt and Isabella Moreis, both married women, accused each other before the Session of Brechin, of certain slanders. The Session ordered both to be wairded tuentie four hours, and to be put in the Joggs or Cokstool on monday next, or releiff thame selffis ilk ane of thame be four poundis, with certificatione that yff they fall in the lyk hereof, they salbe cairtit through the toune.

Brechin. A. J.

PRESENTMENT OF AN INCORRIGIBLE SCOLD.

To the Worshipful Thomas Parker of Browsholme, Esq.

Wee whose names are subscribed doe humbly certifye that Margarett, the wife of Edward Hancocke, hath since her coming to have residence in Bradford, been noted and knowne to be a common disturber of her neighbours, in the way of Scoldinge, for which she was in Slaideburne Court presented for a common scold, and continuing that unneighbourly practice was Ducked, and for all that, shee hath hitherto practised the like way of Scoldinge, soe that scarce a familye in the said Towne is free from her; and this wee make bold to certifye unto your Worship, as a certaine Truth.

Witnesse our hands the 6th day of March, Año Dom. 1673.

HENRY KNOWLES,
WILLIAM CALVERLEY,
STEPHEN ANDERTON.

Browseholme, is in the parish of Waddington, in h e West Riding of Yorkshire.

PLEASE THE PIGS! a common colloquial phrase is a verbal corruption of "please the pyx," that is, the vessel containing the Eucharist, which by believers in Transubstantiation was superstitiously regarded as Divinity.

WILLIAM HENRY IRELAND.

NEMO's desire in reference to 'some account of this somewhat accomplished man,' would, were the truth told, afford him but little gratification. NEMO is in error in supposing him to have been "the Author of the Shakespeare Forgeries." His father, Samuel Ireland was the original deviser of the whole affair. He had succeeded so well in befooling 'professed judges' of the original designs by Hogarth; that prompted by his needy circumstances, he let fly at a higher game, and befouled the shrine of England's dramatic bard! It was Samuel Ireland's eldest daughter who wrote the imitations of the dramatist; the younger one assisted, and the redoubtable William Henry was merely a copier. It was Samuel Ireland who began by collecting books of Shakespeare's time, fabricated manuscript notes and inserted them in the books as if written by the immortal bard, when finding them greatly admired, he persisted till their frequency might have divulged the nefariousness of the transaction, to all but those who were stupidly blind. In one of his freaks, Samuel Ireland desirous of accommodating the world with a portrait of the irritable Shakespearian Critic John Dennis, and not aware there was really one extant, engraved by Vandergucht—ventured on one copied from an *original* drawing by Hogarth, in the second volume of his Graphic Illustrations of that celebrated painter. It is almost nugatory to observe Hogarth never troubled himself about John Dennis of theatrical thunder notoriety, and the portrait there presented, is a fiction by Samuel Ireland, though received as genuine by many respected Hogarthian Collectors.

Should NEMO's desire be still unsatiated, the writer to whom William Henry Ireland was long personally known, may possibly communicate some particulars, hitherto but very imperfectly known. Let this be generally understood, the 'Confessions' published by him, were a tissue of lies from beginning to end, and the original idea of the volume, was caused by an irresistible impulse at the moment, that of raising the wind, as he himself assured the writer—

When needs must, the devil drives!

SHROPSHIRE DIALECT.

During a residence some years since in Shropshire, I made a list of the principal provincialisms, which are heartily at the service of Current Notes.

Llangollen, Dec. 12. G.

Adland. The headland of a ploughed field.
Anunst. Over against; opposite.
Ax. To ask.
Baggin. The luncheon of a ploughman, generally carried in a bag.
Belly vengeance. Very weak beer.
Bin. To be. *Examples.* How bin you? They bin bad uns they bin!
Blow, pronounced blow. Blossom.
Brummack. A hook to cut broom.
Brummill. A hill covered with broom,
Bullirag and bullrag. To scold vehemently.
Bullragging. A good scolding.
Butty. A companion labourer.
By-blow. An illegitimate child.
By Gosh! By Gum! Two oaths, the first "by God's house;" the second referring to the Trinity.
Ceout. To bark as a cur, generally called a ceouting dog.
Chats. Very small potatoes.
Clat. To tell false tales of another.
Clem. To starve. *Ex.* I am welly clemmed.
Clout. A blow.
Colly West. Awry, or crooked.
Cornell. A corner.
Cow. To frighten. *Ex.* Dunna be cowed by him!
Cowt. A colt.
Cratch. To eat well.

Cratch. 1. A bacon rack. 2. A horse rack.
Ex. Ye schulen fynde a yonge child wlappd in clothes and leyd in a cracche.—Wicklif's Translation.
Crib. A rack for fodder.
Cricker. A man who attends the market to buy butter, fruit, etc. to sell elsewhere.
Croodle. To crouch down, as over a fire.
Dayd. An oath. *Ex.* I'am dayd if I do it.
Dither. To shake as from cold. *Ex.* I'm all of a dither.
Duck. To stoop the head.
Dout. To extinguish. *Ex.* Dout the candle.
Dunny. Deaf.
Dȳch (pronounced long). To cut or clean out a ditch.
Eddish. Aftergrass.
Elrake. A heel rake,
Ess. Ashes.
Ess hole. The space under a kitchen grate for ashes. Sometimes also called a Purgatory.
Evil. A dung fork called also a dungevil, and a sharevil.
Fasten. To seize. *Ex.* The dog fastened him by the leg.
Fauce. False.
Feg. Fog grass.
Fettle, *s.* Order, condition.
Fettle, *v.* To put in order. *Ex.* I soon fettled it.
Forecast. Forethought.
Fresh. Denotes a state not quite drunk, but decidedly not sober.
Gaup. To stare foolishly. *Ex.* What bin'e gauping at?
Girder. A violent blow.
Glat. An opening where a fence has been broken.
Grig. Heather. In Welsh, gryg.
Grin. A gin, or snare for rabbits and hares.
Growte. To work in. A dirty hand is said to be growted with dirt.
Haggle. To dispute while buying.
Handy. Expert, ready; a handy fellow; things be handy.
Heft. An exceedingly hard lift or draught. When a cart is so fast as not to be stirred, the horses are said to draw at a dead heft.
Hide. To beat.
Higgler. The same as a Cricker.
Hound. A term of reproach. You lazy hound.
Houndish. Sullen.
Insense. To impress on the mind.
Jag. A small piece, or portion. *Ex.* A jag of bread, a jag of hay, etc.
Kymet. Denotes weakness of intellect where personal restraint is necessary.
Kype. A basket of unpeeled osiers.
Lase. To beat. *Ex.* He gave me a lasing.
Lats. Laths.
Linty. Lazy.
Lissom, Pliant, supple.
Lug. To pull, or draw. *Ex.* To lug the hair, corn, etc.
Lungous. Violent. Sometimes used in an approving sense, as a lungous workman, etc.
Melch. In milk. *Ex.* A good melched cow.
Milner. A miller.
Mixen. A midden.
Mot, or motty. A mark, as in the game of quoits.
Nail-passer. A gimblet.
Nesh. Tender, delicate. *Ex.* A poor nesh creature.
Oont. A mole.
Oont-catcher. The mole-catcher.
Oss. To try or endeavour sometimes to promise well. *Ex.* You dunna oss to do it. The cowt osses well.
Peart. Lively. Also a similar state to fresh.
Plash. Water in large quantities. A plash of rain.
Potch. To pierce, or puncture. He potched his finger in my eye.
Purgy. Proud, conceited.
Rack. A pathway in a wood.
Racklin. The smallest of a litter, as pigs, dogs, etc.
Runt. Small and deformed.
Sapy. Moist, denoting the first stage of putrefaction in meat.
Scutch. The roots of the dog grass.
Shut. A narrow outlet from one street to another.
Shut. To get rid of. *Ex.* You bin well shut of it.
Slang. A narrow strip of land.
Soak. The place where a spring bursts out.
Spaul. A term used in cutting timber; after the first cut with the axe has been made, a second made a few inches from it causes the intermediate wood to fly out; this piece is said to spaul.
Stodge. To satiate.
Stoul. The stump of a tree cut down.
Sup, *v.* To drink.
Sup, *s.* A draught.
Tade. *perfect* of To take. *Ex.* I tade him home.
Tallent. A hay loft.
Teart. Sharp, acute.
Trig. A small gutter.
Unshut. To ungear horses.
Uvver. Upper. The hill country by those in the plains is called the uvver country.
Wap. To beat.
Wapping. Large.
Welly. Nearly, almost.
Werrit. To tease.
Yair. Hair.
Yarn. To earn.
Yed. Head.
Yeddart. Edward.
Ycow. An ewe.
Youk. To cry out

NEGATIVES ENDING IN NA.

I amna.	I am not.	I munna.	I must not.
I binna.	I be not.	I shanna.	I shall not.
I eanna.	I cannot.	I shudna.	I should not.
I didna	I did not.	I winna.	I will not.
I couldna.	I could not.	I wunna.	I will not.
I hanna.	I have not.	I wudna.	I would not.

HONEST DICK LEVERIDGE.

Among the many attempts to enforce their claims on the public patronage, none pursue that course with a greater chance of effect than the player or the singer. The General Advertiser, March 14, 1743-4, has the following which may possibly afford some amusement.

Advertisement, by Mr. LEVERIDGE, to be sung to the Tune of—

A Cobler there was, that liv'd in a stall.

Observing the Papers for several days,
Fill'd up with a number of Benefit plays
My Muse smiling said, Dick! it will not be wrong,
To sound an Advertisement in Merry Song.
Derry down, down Derry down.

And thus now I raise my voice to the Town,
To move your kind thoughts against my day comes;
And then with your favour, my Play to promote,
That Leveridge may sing when he offers his note—
Derry down, down Derry down.

Some advertisements in the papers of that year, show that Leveridge then resided in lodgings, "in Hanover Street, the third door on the right hand from Long-Acre." That side of the street has vanished in the recent widening of the thoroughfare. Subsequently, Leveridge kept the Constitution Tavern, corner of Tavistock Court in Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, and here Thomas Frye painted his portrait in an admirable manner, it is now in the possession of Edmund Calvert, Esq.

December 8. EDWARD F. RIMBAULT.

DECISION OF A PRUSSIAN MONARCH.

FREDERICK THE GREAT, in 1755, sometime before the impending war, travelled *incognito*, attended by one or two servants into Germany, At an inn in one of the towns through which he passed, being alone, he enquired what company there was in the house, and being told there were four gentlemen, he sent a polite message, with his compliments, and desired he might spend the evening with them: his request was refused. The king asked the innkeeper, if there was any gentleman in the neighbourhood, whom he might for the evening obtain as a companion. An officer who lived close by was sent for, when the association was wholly to Frederick's gratification, and he learned from him, the character of several of his officers, and other matters. Not long after the king sent him a letter, made himself known, and proffered his former evening companion a considerable post in his army. The officer replied, that though very sensible of the honour, he could not accept it, as he was actually engaged for two years, after which he should be at his Majesty's service. This, the king failed not to remember, the two years expired but a day or two before the important battle of Rosbach, when Frederick, in a letter, written wholly in his autograph, wrote to remind him of his promise—the honour of both was maintained.

The Emperor Napoleon the First, in his last will dictated at Longwood, in April 1821, directed that among the effects which Marchand was to take in charge, and convey to his son, was 'My alarum Clock: it is the alarum clock of Frederick the Second, which I took at Potsdam.' After this explanation can it be matter of surprise that Old Fritz's successor in the Monarchy has since been ignorant of knowing—what's o'clock!

ENTRE NOUS.

SAMUEL ROGERS the poet, and the associate of poets, threw off this mortal coil early on the morning of Tuesday, the 18th inst., about half an hour after midnight—the last of the stars that shone in his orbit. In the unpublished autograph Journal and Confessions of the once celebrated Lady Caroline Lamb, is the following allusion to names and parties who are now all passed to that bourne from which no traveller returns. The lines here stated to have been written by the author of "The Pleasures of Memory," are not in any edition of his writings.

The first time Lord Byron called at Melbourne House he came with Moore and Rogers; my child, a beautiful boy of three years old, fell asleep on his knee, and he sat for two hours, fearful of awakening him. In the very spirit of prophecy, Rogers wrote on that occasion the following lines:—

TO AN INFANT SLEEPING IN A POET'S ARMS.

Oh! wake thee, Cherub! sleep not there,
Where passion's throes the soul deform;
So rests the seraph of the air
Upon the cloud that veils the storm.

Oh! wake thee, dearest! for the heave
Of that proud heart is fraught with care;
Those arms that fold thee—to deceive,
For there's a slumb'ring serpent there:

A Serpent that will shortly wake,
And o'er each flow'r of bliss be twined;
From hope her dream of rapture take,
And blight the Eden of the mind.

Then, wake thee, boy! for even now,
The poison works with subtle art;
Prepared with many a traitor vow,
To break thy doating mother's heart.

THE notice of Samuel Rogers, in Cadell's Contemporary Portraits, was communicated by himself, and there the date of his birth at Newington Green is stated July 30, 1763; he therefore died in his ninety-third year, at No. 22, St. James's Place.

TALBOIS. Having obtained the pedigree of the Lincolnshire branch of the ancient family of Talbois, I am desirous of knowing if there are any records of them in the county of Bedford, and possibly some of your correspondents can give me some information? The name is spelt in various ways—Ivo Tailbois, William Tallebose, Taillegebosch, or Taillegebosc. Ralph Taillgebosch, or Tailebosc, Sheriff of Bedfordshire. Taylebois, Tailboys, Talboys, Tayleby, and Tailby.

Cranoe Rectory, Dec. 20. J. H. H.

WILLIS'S

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TO THE PUBLISHERS.

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MDCCCLVII.

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Erratum.—P. 99, col. 1, l. 16 from foot, for same read sarue.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXI.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [JANUARY, 1856.

HEREFORDSHIRE NEW-YEAR CUSTOMS.

A comparison of the many diversified customs in the English Counties at various periods of the year presents much interest, and as customs, are peculiarly gratifying to many persons who are not strictly observers themselves of these interminable occasions for displaying our native character, arising from traditions of which time is fast obliterating all record. Whilst spending Christmas-tide at Bromyard, a snug little self-satisfied town, about fourteen miles from Hereford, I noted the following curious observances, which possibly are not confined to this one of our western counties.

On New-Year's Eve, as the hour of twelve drew near, within doors a pleasurable excitement became visible in the face of each person, then seated about the Christmas log; and without, the chanting of the last new carol broke upon the stillness of the night in discordant sounds with no very harmonious effect. So soon as the clock had struck twelve, there was a rush out of doors to the nearest spring of water, with this object; Whoever first brought in "the cream of the well," was deemed fortunate, and those who first tasted of it had also the prospective good fortune of luck following at their heels throughout the whole of the ensuing year. Meanwhile in the street, borne upon the night air, was heard the incoherent noise of the ribald laugh and the joyous song, lustily shouted by many sturdy labourers, who, though usually steady, "only this once" in the year, had made a rather long sitting at "the Lion," or "the Plough," and were then wending their homeward course at the friendly intimation of Boniface, who had warned them of the hour when *sober* men should be in bed. With these, happy souls, the custom is called the "burying Old Tom," i.e., the assisting at the departure of the old year, and in jocund exultations welcoming in that of the new.

After the noise and uproar of the funeral obsequies of Old Tom have ceased, the street is in its turn the scene of a tumultuous jollity, caused by bands of boys, chanting in the loudest possible note, and with an indisputable contempt for the Queen's English or Murray's Grammar, the following hearty good wishes, to those whose munificence may be excited by the plenitude of their *unbiassed*, yet plaintive benevolence.

I wish you a merry Christmas,
And a happy New Year;
A pocket full of money,
And a cellar full of beer;
And a good fat pig,
To serve you all the year.
Ladies and gentlemen, sat by the fire,
Pity we, poor boys, out in the mire!

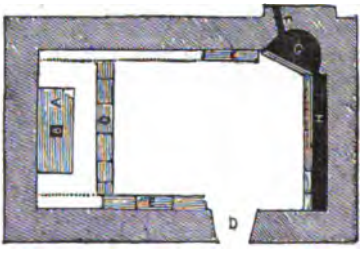
Torrington Square, Jan. 12. T. H. PATTISON.

MADRON WELL BAPTISTRY OR CHAPEL.

Madron Well is situated in a moor, about a mile to the north-west of Madron church; and about two hundred yards from the well is the ruined baptistry or chapel, having been partially destroyed in Cromwell's time by Major Ceely, of St. Ives.

The interior as it is now seen, is represented in the above cut; the following is the—

PLAN OF THE CHAPEL.



On the outside of the building, the length is twenty-five feet; the breadth, sixteen feet; the walls are two feet in thickness. The altar stone, marked A, is five feet ten inches in length, two feet seven inches wide, and in height above the level of the floor, two feet ten inches. The cavity or socket, marked B, where a cross, or the image of the patron saint, St. Maternus, may have been placed, is nine inches by eight. C is a row of stones forming a step which divides the chancel from the nave. E E indicate the remains of the stone benches or seats. D, the doorway, facing directly north, is two feet wide at the entrance, gradually extending to two feet eight inches within.

An excavation, G, in the south-west corner, appears to have been used as a font, the water being supplied

from the well above, and for which purpose there is an inlet in the wall at F. The drain marked H served to carry off the waste water.

There are still some remains of the outer wall that enclosed the building when Catholicism was the national religion.

The woodcuts have been kindly forwarded by Mr. J. F. Blight, of Penzance, in whose work on the Crosses and Antiquities of West Cornwall, to be published in the ensuing month, they are part of its illustrations. To the antiquarian readers of Current Notes, it is respectfully commended to their notice.

H. A. C., in Current Notes, 1855, p. 93, states that "many County and Local Historians allude to the poem written by Bishop Hall, entitled the Mysterie of Godlinesse, describing the miraculous cure of the poor cripple through the agency of the waters of Madron Well." Unless H. A. C. has *misquoted* the County and Local Historians, he has been greatly *misled* by them, for,—

Firstly, Bishop Hall did not write any poem on the Great Mysterie of Godlinesse; that tract is in prose.

Secondly, Bishop Hall did not describe the miraculous cure of the poor cripple in his tract on 'the Great Mystery of Godlinesse,' nor did he therein make any allusion to it. I gave the passage in Current Notes, p. 93, from the treatise of the good Bishop, in which the description of the Madron cripple does occur, from 'the Invisible World, edit. Lond. 1808,' 8vo., Book I., sect. viii. p. 465; but this tract is also in prose. I observe that Lysons, Cornwall, p. cci., makes this mistake of citing 'the Mystery of Godliness' for 'the Invisible World;' he, however, does not cite it as a poem, but a publication. Probably he also, like H. A. C., copied from preceding writers, instead of going to the original, and thus errors become perpetuated.

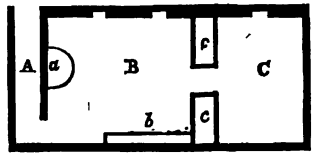
May I ask H. A. C., whether, from his *own observation*, he has ascertained that the door of the Chapel, near Cape Cornwall, in St. Just parish, 'faces the north,' as that in Madron does? I believe there are now no remains of that building in Park-an-Chapel enclosure. Borlase, in some manuscript notes, speaks of it, in his time; and the Rev. J. Buller says the remains were, in 1842, still to be seen. Account of St. Just, p. 45. I did not see them while I was incumbent of that parish, from 1846 to 1850.

Brampford Speke, Dec. 31. G. C. GORHAM.

Mr. JOHN MARTIN, F.L.S., died at Froxfield, Bedfordshire, Dec. 30, in his sixty-fifth year. He was formerly of the firm of Rodwell and Martin, booksellers, 46, New Bond Street, and the author or compiler of a "Bibliographical Catalogue of Privately Printed Books, 1834," pp. 564, 8vo. On the decease of Mr. Wiffen, the librarian at Woburn Abbey, the late Duke of Bedford thought so favourably of this volume, that he unsolicited appointed Mr. Martin, as his successor.—The Bibliographical Catalogue was recently reprinted.

BUT AND BEN DEFINED.

The Cornish application of "but and ben" may be what Mr. Hawker of Morwenstow, Current Notes, 1855, p. 93, says it is; but the phrase is by no means confined to that district, nor does it bear in other parts of Great Britain the signification of "butlery and hall." All over Saxon Scotland it is still in colloquial use, every cottage having its 'but and ben,' as formerly every farm house had. The ground floor of a Scottish hynd's house may be thus represented—



The passage, (A) from the outer to the inner door, is called the but-a-house, and in some cases is still partly occupied by the cow. Occasionally in cold weather I have seen a pig kept in it. The main apartment (B) is the only one having a fireplace (*a*); it serves the inmates

For kitchen, for parlour and hall;

and has a dresser (Fr. *dressoir*), or bink (old German, *binke*), opposite to the window, stored with crockery of all sorts. Two beds, large wooden boxes, with sliding panels in front, are placed (*c c*) across the cottage, nearly in the centre of its length, and a door or curtain occupies the space between them, to screen the entrance to the ben-a-house (C), which is used as a miscellaneous store-room, and generally containing a bed in which the eldest son or daughter, or the bondager or hired servant sleeps. So 'gang ben the house,' is to enter this inner apartment; and to 'gang but the house,' is to move towards the door. 'Ben i' the room,' and 'but i' the kitchen,' are phrases quite common among farm servants.

But and ben are the Dutch *buiten* and *binnen;* and *buiten* of *binnen gaan*, is to go out and in, with the affix *by*. 'In by' and 'out by' are phrases heard everywhere. The ben-a-house is the Latin *penʒus* or *penetral;* the Hebrew penimah (פְּנִימָה), the *benmost*, innermost, or most retired, or private part of the house, peculiarly consecrated to the Penates or household gods.

South Shields. WILLIAM BROCKIE.

GRAVE OF SIR ROBERT STRANGE.

In the recently published Memoirs of Sir Robert Strange, Knight, Engraver; and of his brother-in-law Andrew Lumisden, Private Secretary to the Stuart Princes, by James Dennistoun, of Dennistoun; are embodied much that will interest the reader, but there is occasionally a deficiency of minutiæ, which the author might easily have avoided, and the following Notes are submitted in the hope of partially supplying that defect.

Robert Strange was born at Pomona, in the Orkneys, July 14, 1721. He served as an apprentice to Cooper

the engraver, from 1735 to 1741; and during this time, among other occupations, was successful in engraving anatomical plates. At the memorable conflict at Culloden, he served the Pretender as one of his Life-guards, and after the fight was pursued, but contrived to escape to Paris, where he became the assistant of Le Bas, the engraver. He continued abroad unattainted.

In October, 1750, he returned to London, and in 1751, commenced business as an engraver. In June, 1752, Dr. William Hunter, then living in the Little Piazza, Covent Garden, between King Street and James Street; announced his Proposals for printing by Subscription, the Anatomy of the Pregnant Uterus, etc. illustrated by ten copper-plates, represented as large as life. The plates were to be engraved by Mr. Strange; the first was already finished, and was to be seen at "the engraver's, at his lodgings, at Mr. Tisoe's, pewterer, Parliament Street, Westminster." In these lodgings he appears to have resided from October, 1750, till March, 1754, when, according to the parochial rate-books, he commenced the occupation of the house, now no. 26, in Henrietta Street, Covent Garden. Here, in the general absence of numbers to the houses, he appears to have adopted the sign of "the Golden Head;" Hogarth had set up the same distinction over the door of his house in Leicester Square; now the northern half of the Sabloniere Hotel.

The house in Henrietta Street, for which he was rated at forty pounds annual rent, was then, in all probability, a private house, and not as now a shop. His family were resident there at Christmas, 1762, and probably till March, 1763, when the celebrated demirep Nancy Dawson, would seem by the rate-books, to have commenced the occupancy. Her name appears in the rate-books, in June, in that year.

Strange's next residence was in Castle Street, Leicester Square; after the numbering of the houses in 1764, it was number 14, but has been rebuilt, the site being that of the well-known Ham and Beef-house, the corner of St. Martin's Court; and hence, in the Gazetteer, May 18, 1765, was announced the following notice.

Mr. Strange, being to set out for Paris, in order to procure the necessary assistance towards executing the inferior part of his works, takes this opportunity to acquaint the public, that the exhibition of his drawings will end on the 25th instant, when the subscription for his late Proposals will likewise be closed. His works will be sold, as usual, at his house, in Castle-street, Leicester-fields; where, towards the beginning of winter, will be published two prints; one, a sleeping Cupid, of late in the Aldrovandi Palace at Bologna, and now in the collection of Sir Lawrence Dundas, Bart.; the other, a Madonna with the Child, in the collection of Mr. Strange: both from the paintings of Guido.

From 1775 to 1780, Strange resided in Paris; in the latter year, he and his family tenanted the house, no. 52, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields. It was then doubtless, a private house, but is now a furniture-dealer or broker's shop. On January 5, 1787, in compliment for having, in the previous year, engraved West's picture of the Apotheosis of the King's children, to the great satisfaction of the Royal Family, he received the honour of knighthood. Sir Robert Strange died in Great Queen Street, at one o'clock, p.m. on Thursday, July 5, 1792, within a few days of the seventy-first year of his age.

How dearly his memory was cherished by his widow, as "the best of husbands, fathers, and men," appears by her letters; that, describing his death, is singularly natural and affectionate—"Two days after he was put in a lead coffin: but I would not let it be closed for eight days. Often, often did I visit his dear cold face, kiss'd it, and knelt by him." Dennistoun, in his Memoirs, vol. ii. p. 250, states—"On the testimony of his daughter, I am enabled to say that Sir Robert was buried in a family-tomb, at the cemetery of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, with a simple Tablet bearing his name; but I find no trace of this fact, either in the grave-yard, or the parish-register."

From the assertion here made, it is evident the writer was very deficient in his mode of enquiry; as the burial register unequivocally records his interment—

July 12, 1792, Sir Robert Strange, from St. Giles' in the Fields,—

supplying the additional interesting fact, that Lady Strange did not allow the coffin to close upon "her honoured lord," till the morning of the burial: the 12th would be the last of the "eight days" alluded to in her letters. Dennistoun found no memorial in the grave-yard —Did he look for it? Long known to the parishioners, was the inscribed ledger-stone to Sir Robert Strange's memory, in the watch-house plat, laid immediately in front of the parlour-window, at the back of the house, No. 35, in Henrietta Street. It is true, the weather, since 1792, had rendered it almost illegible, and on the recent arrangement of the grave-stones, it was found broken in several pieces, but enough remained to identify it; the fragments of the stone are now in the vault below the church; and the immediate spot is now covered by the head-stone of a family named Jones, recording their interments there, or near by, in 1837 and 1838.

During the last month, December, 1855, there has been placed a tablet of stone, about two feet, six inches, by two feet, four inches; inscribed—

HERE LIES
SIR ROBERT STRANGE,
THE EMINENT ENGRAVER.
BORN JULY 14TH, 1721.
DIED JULY 5TH, 1792.

This, however, has been placed at the foot, and not over the grave of the most eminent engraver that has existed; at the private cost of Mr. Henry Graves, printseller, in Pall Mall. It is, however, so greatly inferior to the transcendant merits of the deceased, that the same party, has, we are assured, concerted some measures for the raising by subscription among the venerators of the art by which he lived, a more fitting Testimonial, one that shall proffer a more lasting and more honourable memento over the ashes of the dead.

The family of Sir Robert Strange is extinct.

BERNARDO TASSO'S L'AMADIGI.

After perusing the interesting bibliographical article concerning the early editions of Amadis de Gaula, in your last Current Notes, pp. 95-96, it would possibly be of some interest to notice that so soon as the said Spanish romance was published, the Noveno Libro included, Bernardo Tasso, father of Torquato Tasso, the author of La Jerusalemme Liberata, took it into his hands, and wrote an Italian poem in ottava rima, entitled, L'Amadigi. Tiraboschi,* in reference to the work, says—

L'Amadigi è tratto da un Romanzo Spagnuolo, e il Tasso s' accinse a scriverlo circa l'anno 1545, mentre vivea tranquillamente in Sorrento. Egli il condusse a fine verso l'anno 1559; e l'Accademia Veneziana gliel chiese, per darlo alla luce, pensando a ragione, che grande onore ne dovesse ad essa venire. Ma il Tasso volle farne l'edizione a sue spese, ed ella uscì alla luce nel 1560.

The edition in my possession is that printed in Vinegia (Venice) by Giolito de Ferrari, 1560; a small quarto volume in fine italic character, with the portrait of the poet, and a small vignette at the beginning and end of each canto, which are in number one hundred.

Bristol, Jan. 7. F. S. DONATO.

* Storia della Letteratura Italiana, Tomo VII., p. 1168.

INEDITED LETTER OF SIR WALTER SCOTT.

The following letter, by "the author of Waverley," was addressed, in 1818, to James Ellis, Esq., Otterburn, near Newcastle upon Tyne; and like most which emanated from that celebrated writer, will be found to be replete with anecdotal and historical interest.

Scott's early association with James Allan, the Northumbrian piper, is humourously depicted, but the fate of this "desperate reprobate," has yet to be told—in 1803, he was capitally convicted at the Durham assizes for horse-stealing; he, however, appears to have ended the motley tenor of his days within the walls of Durham gaol: he died there, Nov. 13, 1810, in his seventy-seventh year.

My dear Sir,—I am greatly interested in your index for Froissart, which must be very valuable to all antiquaries. If you will trust me with it about the 12th of May, enclosed under cover to William Kerr, Esq., Post Office, Edinburgh, I will receive it safe and void of expense, and cause print a few copies of it, which I can get done for a trifle, or rather for nothing, excepting having a very few for sale, and get you as many as you wish to make presents of. There is a separate index of this kind to Warton's History of Poetry, without which that confused mass of curious matter could scarce be turned useful, since one might as well look for a needle in a bottle of hay, as for any particular passage. I mention the 12th of May, because I return then to the Court.

I should be glad to have a copy of the Alnwick work upon Allan, whom I have often seen, and heard, particularly at the Kelso races. He was an admirable piper, yet a desperate reprobate. The last time I saw him he was in absolute beggary, and had behaved himself so ill at my uncle's house, that the old gentleman himself a most admirable piper, would not on any account give him quarters, though I interceded earnestly for him, "the knave," as Davie tells Justice Shallow, "being my very good friend." He was then quite like a pauper, with his wife, and an ass in the true gipsy fashion. When I first saw him at Kelso races, he wore the Northumberland livery, a blue coat, with a silver crescent on his arm.

I knew something of Allan's grandfather, or, perhaps, great-grandfather. They were Yetholmers and retainers at one time of the Marquises of Lothian. In the reign of Charles the Second, or James the Second, there was living near to Fairnihirst, the castle of the Marquis of Lothian, three miles above Jedburgh, a certain bold yeoman called Ringan Oliver, one of the strongest men in our country. This man was much irritated by the Marquis, repeatedly hunting over his fields when the corn was growing. And, at length, to mark his resentment of the injury, he shot one of the dogs. The Marquis, in revenge, came to his house at Smailcleugh, with a party, and among the rest Allan, all of them *boys of the belt*, who were to do their laird's bidding, right or wrong. Ringan had secured his doors and windows with withies fastened across them, and fired out on the assailants, while a maidservant, the only other person within the house, loaded his guns, of which he had two or three. He made good his defence, till a shot killed the poor maid, on which Ringan hewed down the withies, and rushed desperately out on his assailants with an axe in one hand, and his broad sword in the other. His foot, however, being entangled in the withies, he stumbled; and ere he could recover himself, Allan the tinker struck him down with a mell or hammer: Ringan was made prisoner, and sent to Edinburgh, where he died. But his son was upside with Allan, to whom he gave a most dreadful beating at the pass above Inchbinny near Jedburgh. I heard these particulars from James Vietch, a very remarkable man, a self-taught philosopher, astronomer, and mathematician, residing at Inchbinny, and certainly one of the most extraordinary persons I ever knew. He is a connection of Ringan Oliver, and is in possession of his sword, a very fine weapon. James Vietch is one of the very best makers of Telescopes, and all optical and philosophical instruments now living, but prefers working at his own business as a ploughwright, excepting at vacant hours. If you cross the borders, you must see him as one of our curiosities, and the quiet simple unpretending manners of a man who has, by dint of private and unaided study made himself intimate with the abstruse sciences of astronomy and mathematics, are as edifying as the observation of his genius is interesting.

The lines on the North Tyne are highly creditable, and record in easy verse much that one is willing to carry in memory. I hope Mr. Shepherd will continue his lines, and will introduce the other rivers. Drayton's Poly Olbion has always had peculiar charms for me, though many persons tire of it, and, for the same reason

I like your Reedwater minstrel. Necessarily prevented from being prolix by the extent of his subject, a poet labouring on such a theme often throws out little brief sketches of landscape painting which, perhaps, like many other sketches, would have been spoiled by finishing.

As for Golden Thomas, of whom Mr. Hedley tells some admirable stories, we will let that fly stick to the wall,* and not disturb the eyes of the living by raking up the ashes of the dead: but after all, if "neat conveyance" were an unallowable crime, I know few border families, but what have blots on their 'scutcheons. I understand Golden Thomas's estate went to collaterals.

I have not printed the appendix yet, but certainly shall do so, for *private dispersion* only.

Mrs. Scott joins me in kind remembrances to Mrs. Ellis, and I am always very much your obliged humble servant,

Abbotsford, 25 April. WALTER SCOTT.

I go to Edinburgh on the 12th of May.

* The saying appears to have been a passing phrase of Scott's Rigdumfunnidos, the memorably jocund John Ballantyne; and was current with a certain meaning among those of his confraternity. Lockhart, in his Memoirs of Scott, edit. 1837, vol. iv. p. 170, relates the particulars of his first meeting with Constable, the bookseller, at one of Scott's Trinity dinners, in the summer of 1818. "Being struck with his appearance, I asked Scott who he was? and he told me, expressing some surprise, that any body should have lived a winter or two in Edinburgh, without knowing, by sight, at least, a citizen, whose name was so familiar to the world. I happened to say, that I had not been prepared to find the great bookseller, a man of such gentlemanlike and even distinguished bearing. Scott smiled, and answered—'Ay, Constable is indeed a grand looking chield. He puts me in mind of Fielding's apology for Lady Booby: to wit, that Joseph Andrews had an air, which, to those who had not seen many noblemen, would give an idea of nobility.' I had not, in those days, been much initiated in the private jokes of what is called, by way of excellence, *the trade*, and was puzzled when Scott in the course of the dinner, said to Constable—'Will your Czarish Majesty do me the honour to take a glass of Champagne?' I asked the master of the feast for an explanation. 'Oh!' said he, 'are you so green as not to know that Constable long since dubbed himself *the Czar of Muscovy*; John Murray, *the Emperor of the West*; and Longman and his string of partners, *the Divan*?' 'And what title,' I asked, 'has Mr. John Ballantyne himself found in this new *almanac imperial*?' 'Let that flee stick to the wa',' quoth Johnny; 'when I set up for a bookseller, *the Crafty* [Constable's cognomination] christened me *the Dey of Algiers*—but he now considers me as next thing to dethroned.' He added, 'His Majesty, the Autocrat, is too fond of these nicknames. One day, a partner of the house of Longman was dining with him in the country, to settle an important piece of business, about which there occurred a good deal of difficulty. The Londoner, by way of a parenthesis, said—'What fine swans you have in your pond there.' 'Swans!' rejoined Constable, 'they are only geese, man. There are just five of them, if you please to observe, and their names are Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme, and Brown.' This skit cost *The Crafty* a good bargain."

HATS.—When did the practice of wearing Felt Hats obtain an introduction in England?

Newbury, January 14. T. S.

Herbert, in his History of the Livery Companies of London, vol. II. p. 533, notices as extant among the City archives, Lib. Fr. 147—Les Ordinaunces des Hatters, temp. Edw. III.; but these were importations of hats, of which the quality or substance is not defined. Hats made of felt are said to have been first invented by a Swiss, at Paris, in 1404. In England all grades of society wore caps, according to statute; thus, later, Shakespeare makes Buckingham, while relating to Gloster his non-success with the Mayor and Citizens of London, allude to the futile trick for a vote in his favour—

> Some fellows of mine own
> At lower end o' the hall, hurl'd up their caps.
>
> Richard III., Act iii. sc. 7.

Herbert also refers to Ordinances of the Hatter Merchants, 1487-8, 3 Hen. VII., but these were probably importations by the Merchant Haberdashers, who were as a company first incorporated in 1447. Felt Hats are stated to have been first made in London by Spaniards, in the reign of King Henry the Eighth. The hats worn by the Queen's bouffettiers, or Yeomen of the Guard, first instituted by King Henry VII., though not "moulded on a porringer, a velvet dish," are still covered with velvet, as was the custom in the olden time.

SCEPPE.—Bp. Fleetwood, under the year 1237, referring to the Antiq. Peterborough, p. 304, observes, 'Here I meet with the word Sceppe, which the glossaries forget, but it signifies a bushel.' Chronicon Preciosum, 1707, 8vo. p. 77. A contemporary manuscript note adds, the word is still used in Norfolk for a basket of wicker, that does, or should contain a bushel.

Skep, in the north of England, also signifies a hive for bees.

EARLY MERCHANTS MARKS.

In Current Notes, Dec. 1855, p. 97, are some interesting examples of these curious devices, copied from monumental brasses, and the enclosed rubbing from a brass in the chancel floor of Chacombe Church, in Northamptonshire, presenting the monogram of Michel Fox, taken by me July 19, 1854, may possibly be worth adding to them. The brass has a representation of the Holy Trinity, with—in old English—the following inscription:—

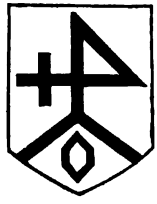
In the name of the Lorde I desyer you of yor Charyte [the word pray is omitted] for the Soule of Myghell Fox, Cytyzen and Groc' of London, and Patron of this Churche, and for ye Soules of Mari and Clemens hys wyffes. Rychard Antony and Johā hys Sonnys. Anne Alys Jane and Alys hys Dowghters. wyche Myghell Decessyd the [blank] daye of [blank] in the yere of owre Lorde God a. MCCCCC. [blank].

ı whose Sowles and all Crysten soules Jhū haue ēy.

The monogram is on the lower dexter corner of the ıb; and in Hudson's Brasses of Northamptonshire, e brass, with the arms on the other corners, will be ınd described and engraved.

Deddington. C. FAULKNER.

I enclose a drawing of the mark of e Merchants of the Staple at Calais, hich appears in various parts of itchin Church, Herts.



The merchants are known to have ıd a Hall at Hitchin, of which ere are still some remains in a ıuse in the town, and probably the ıurch was built, or beautified, by me of them.

January 14. C. B. P.

Clutterbuck, in his History of Hertfordshire, vol. III., p. ?, states that the Town of Hitchin has been famous in early nes for the manufacture of wool, when many merchants the Staple of Calais resided here, as appears by the inriptions on several brasses in the church.

Again, at p. 39, he observes, On the roof of the chapel, ırth of the chancel in Hitchin Church, are carved several the marks formerly in use by merchants to distinguish ıeir goods from those of other merchants trading to the me place, and it is probable that they may represent some those borne by merchants of the Staple of Calais, of whom any are buried in this chapel.

Chauncy mentions an inscription in the church in his ne—Hic jacent . . . . quondam Mercatoris Stale Uille Calisie, qui obiit XIX° die mens' Aprilis a° D'ni occcclij°. Et p' a'i'a Alicie ux. ej. q° obiit . . . die . . . . a° D'ni M°cccclx°. Clutterbuck, p. 47, pies this from Chauncy as formerly there, but now gone; ıt previously, at p. 38, he describes this brass as being ill in the chancel, on the floor; the arms gone, but the scription remaining, under the effigies of a man and woan, four sons and six daughters.

On the floor of the chapel north of the chancel, Clutterıck, p. 40, quotes the inscription on a brass—

Hic jacet corpora Nicholai Mattok M'catoris Stapule ille Calesie ac' Civis et Piscenarii Civitat. London. ac ıne et laudabilis Generose Elizabeth, uxoris sue qui ıidem Nich'us obiit . . . die mens' . . . a° D'ni occcc. . . . Et dicta Elizabeth obiit vicesimo sexto e mensis Septe'bris a° D'ni M°cccclxxxv°.

A descendant of this Nicholas; John Mattocke, of Coven-y, Esq., by deed dated July 25, 1639, settled nine acres land in Hitchin for the "maintenance of an able and arned Scole Master, that therewith, and with other reınues, he may teach and instruct and trayne up the chilren of the inhabitants of Hitchin, in good litterature and ertuous educacion, for the avoideing of idlenes, the mother all vice and wickedness.

The Freeschool, a house at the west end of Tyler's-street, ı Hitchin, that had immemorially been used as a schoolouse, was, in 1640, begun to be rebuilt by voluntary conibutions, and in 1678 was enlarged and completed by alph Skynner, Gentleman, who died in June, 1697.

BOTTLE CONJUROR.—Has it transpired who was the perpetrator of the celebrated hoax in reference to the performance of the Bottle Conjuror, at the Haymarket Theatre, in 1749?

Wisbeach, Jan. 4. P. E. H.

This has long been a mooted point; but in "the Life and uncommon Adventures of Capt. Dudley Bradstreet, printed at Dublin, 1755," 8vo., are some particulars which may be deemed conclusive. The writer appears to have been engaged in a variety of adventures and intrigues; he asserts that as a spy for the government, in 1745, he joined as a volunteer the rebel army, and when at Derby, by his counsels induced the leaders to abandon the design of advancing on the metropolis, and return to Scotland. He also, according to his own account, contrived 'the famous Hoax of the Bottle Conjuror,' and to this volume is appended the play of the Bottle Conjuror, commemorative of that event. The volume, however, is so rare that it has escaped the notice of all the editors of the Biographia Dramatica.

AMERICA, A CENTURY SINCE!

In 1755, the following statistical account of English subjects in the Colonies of North America was taken from Militia Rolls, Poll Taxes, Bills of Mortality, Governors' Returns, and other authentic sources. These numbers were exclusive of the military in the pay of the Crown, and the negroes:—

Halifax and Lunenburg, in Nova Scotia	5,000
New Hampshire	30,000
Massachusets Bay	220,000
Rhode Island and Providence	35,000
Connecticut	100,000
New York	100,000
The Jerseys	60,000
Pennsylvania	250,000
Maryland	85,000
Virginia	85,000
North Carolina	45,000
South Carolina	30,000
Georgia	6,000
Total	1,051,000

The French inhabitants in North America, exclusive of the military and the negroes, were—

Canada	45,000
Louisiana	7,000

Forming a total of 52,000. The English on that continent being more than twenty to one of the French.

A century has elapsed, and now, thou land whose flag is bedecked by a Constellation of many stars, whose colours display the blue white and red of old England; what is the number of thy people—almost innumerable!

Warren's Ten Thousand a Year has recently been published in the Russian language at St. Petersburg; and is now, with the Diary of a Physician, being translated into the Danish, by Hans Christian Andersen.

Adam Micziewicz, the Polish poet, died of cholera, at Constantinople, Nov. 26th last. The coffin containing his body was brought to France by the Euphrate, which arrived at Marseilles on the 7th instant.

THE LEGEND OF MORWENSTOW.

In the ninth age, there dwelt in Wales, a Celtic king, Breachan by name: it was from him that the words Brecon and Brecknock received origin; and Queen Gladwise was his wife. They had, as it is recorded by Leland the scribe, four-and-twenty children: either these were their own daughters and sons, or, according to a usage of those days, they were the offspring of the nobles of that land, placed for loyal and learned nurture in the palace of the king, and so called children of his house! Of these, Morwenna was one. She grew up wise, learned, and holy above her mates; and it was evermore the strong desire of her youth, to bring the barbarous and pagan people among whom she dwelt, to the Christian font.

Now, so it was, that when as Morwenna had grown up to a saintly womanhood, there was a king of Saxon England, Ethelwolf by name. He also had many children, and while he gave to the famous St. Swithin the guidance of his sons, he besought King Breachan to allow the maiden Morwenna to become the teacher of the Princess Edith, and the other daughters of his house. She came, and she so gladdened the king by her grace and goodness, that at last he gave her whatsoever she sought.

Now the piece of ground, or the God's acre, which in those days was wont to be set apart and hallowed for the site of a future church, was called the station,* or in native speech, the Stowe of the martyr or saint, who gave name to the altar stone. So on a certain day, thus said Morwenna to the king, "A boon! O king! a boon!" "Be it so, my daughter! so it shall be!" Then made answer Morwenna, "There is a tall and stately headland in far Cornwall, and it looks along the Severn sea. They call it in that region Hennacliff, that is to say, the Raven's Crag. Often, in wild Wales, have I watched across the waves, until the westering sun fell red upon that Cornish rock, and I have said in my vows, Would to God that a font might be hewn, and an altar built among the stones, by yonder barbarous hill! Give me then, I beseech thee, my Lord, a station for a priest, in that scene of my prayer, that so the saying of the Seer may come to pass,† 'In the place of dragons, where each lay, there shall be grass with reeds and rushes!'" Her voice was heard! Her entreaty was fulfilled, and so it is, that notwithstanding the lapse of ten centuries of English time, at this very day, the bourne of many a pilgrim to the west, is the station of Morwenna, or in simple and Saxon phrase, Morwenstow.

Morwenstow. R. S. H.

* Station, or the title, from Jacob's Pillar, literally, the stronghold or fort of the warrior in the land of the foe; the garrison of God's soldier in the battle field, the region of Adam. † Isaiah, chapter xxxv. verse 7.

ANOTHER CHRIST CROSS RHYME.

The following verses, from a hitherto unpublished manuscript, met my eye the very day on which I saw those of the Rev. R. S. Hawker, in Current Notes, p. 86; and bear so striking a resemblance to *his*, that I strongly suspect the two Canticles are derived from a common source, and yet the *variæ lectiones* of that which I now copy are by no means unimportant, and have doubtless been adopted from a still more ancient version than the mediæval model on which his very elegant and picturesque rhymes have been constructed.

TIMOTHEUS.

A CHILD'S PETITION.

Christ His Cross shall be my speed!
Teach me, dear Mamma, to read;
That I may in Scripture see
What His love hath done for me.

Let me learn that I may know,
Why he came to dwell below;
Why above so bright He stands,
Wounded in side, feet, and hands.

Teach me letters, A, B, C;
Till that I shall able be,
Signs to know and words to frame,
And to spell sweet Jesu's name.

Then, dear Teacher, will I look
In that precious Holy Book,
Which doth Wisdom's Treasures hold,
"More to be desired than Gold."

Teach me, dear Mamma, to pray,
Bible verses day by day;
So when I to GOD shall plead,
Christ His Cross shall be my speed.

How must a neglected man of genius conscious of his own powers, pity those who cannot appreciate him, and who bestow what is due on mere pretenders.

Margaret, Countess of Blessington.

JOSEPH HAYDN, the author of the Dictionary of Dates, Book of Dignities, and compiler of several other works of general utility, having recently become paralyzed, the distressed position of himself and family was by the friendly operations of the press, fairly made publicly known. Lord Palmerston, greatly to his honour, transmitted 100*l.* Her Majesty, in consideration of Haydn's literary services, the extent of which few appreciate, or know the anxiety, labour, vexation, or destructive quality, save those who are so employed, conferred a pension of 25*l.* Mr. D'Israeli and others, more fully estimating the requirements of Haydn's helpless need and situation, contributed a sufficiency to place Mrs. Haydn and her family in a stationery business, 13, Crawley Street, Oakley Square. Haydn has not long survived, to be much indebted to the Government's munificent aid, amounting to 1*s.* 4½*d.* per diem, evincing a nation's remunerative gratitude to a soul-broken, distinguished literary struggler for bread. He expired on the evening of the 17th instant.

PAPAL DESTRUCTION OF CLASSICAL MANUSCRIPTS.

Pope Gregory VII. is accused by Machiavel and by Cardan of destroying a manuscript of Varro, then extant in the library of the Vatican. The reason given for this illiberal conduct is as strange as the deed itself. The Pope, they say, having discovered that St. Augustine had made a very free use of the inedited part of that learned Roman's work, chose rather to burn the original than that his favourite polemic should be convicted of plagiarism. Several other classical manuscripts, having been confounded with that of Varro, are supposed to have perished by the same barbarous hand.

Gregory, notwithstanding the conceited sanctity of his last words—"I have loved righteousness, and I have hated iniquity, therefore I die in exile," had been the most ambitious and imperious of prelates. He wrote to Henry the Fourth of Germany, "I wish I may perish if I do not deprive you of life and empire!" The people of Sardinia having hesitated as to paying the exactions of the Holy See, this meek servant of the servants of God threatened their extermination in these words, "I will stir up against you the Normans and the Lombards who shall waste your island with fire and sword." On another occasion, this same Pontiff expressed to his legate in Spain similar sentiments, "I had rather that the whole country were overrun by the Saracens, than possessed by wretched Christians who refuse homage to the Holy Church." He had proposed to unite all Christendom against the Saracens, but died at Salerno in 1087, after having kindled a lasting flame throughout Europe.

WAYSIDE CROSSES.

During a recent ramble in France, I observed frequently small crosses of wood, roughly fashioned, placed on the mound, at the foot of the wayside crosses. These, I concluded, were memorials or offerings deposited there by the worshippers from the adjacent villages, or, mayhap, by the passer by; if so, it appeared to me as being an interesting and peculiar custom among the many errors and superstitions of the Romish Church.

I should be glad to know if I am correct in my conjecture; and if not, to be set right.

Torrington Square, Jan. 5. R. P.

RUSSIA SUBSIDIZED BY ENGLAND.

Elizabeth Empress of Russia, by a Treaty in 1755, with King George II., was to receive, for ten years, a subsidy of 60,000*l.*, during which time the Empress was to maintain, ready for the service of Great Britain, 73,450 men; it was further provided, that should they be actually employed in the field, the subsidy was to be augmented to 500,000*l.*, per annum, but the troops were to be paid by Russia. What will the year 1955 produce?

E. Philpot, Lyme Regis, is respectfully referred to Current Notes, 1853, p. 90.

SHAKESPEARE'S ARCHDEACON OF BANGOR.

A clever genealogist has lately been examining into my pedigree, which is one of the oldest of the Welsh descents, and collating it with others; and, amongst the rest, with that in Lewys Dwnn's Heraldic Visitation of Wales, in the time of Queen Elizabeth, and printed by that distinguished antiquary, Sir Samuel Rush Meyrick. He who is curious in such matters will find it in vol. II. page 290 (North Wales), and at the bottom of the left hand page, thus headed—*Yr ach yma oedd yr gyntaf yn yr hên llyfr*, i.e., This Pedigree was the first in the old Book. This pedigree, though incomplete, is one of the fullest and longest in the book. The lineal descent from Jestyn ap Gwrgant, King of Glamorgan, whose arms I bear; down to Davidd Vangor, i.e. David of Bangor, is clearly shewn, and is corroborated by old Welsh Manuscripts and other authorities. This David of Bangor, the Dean, is named by Browne Willis, David Daron; and, it is said, that in his house at Bangor, that scheme of resistance was concerted, which caused so much disquietude to King Henry the Fourth. It is also said, that my ancestor, David Daron, whose eldest son is styled Davidd Vilwr, i.e. David the soldier (he married Jane, daughter and heiress of Black David, the son of David Wynne, the son of Red Evan of Powys), was outlawed in 1406, for his complicity with Owain Glyndwr. He is, beyond all doubt, "the Archdeacon" of Shakespeare, in whose house Hotspur, Worcester, Mortimer, and Glendower meet. See First Part of King Henry the Fourth, Act III., sc. 1.

Shakespeare, it would seem, had erroneously styled him Archdeacon, or, he might have been Archdeacon, as well as Dean. If any of your antiquarian friends can throw light upon this matter, and upon the conduct and history of David Daron, the Dean; as well as upon the manner and term of his outlawry, they will confer a very great favour upon me. I am not a notoriety-monger, and, at the same time, I have no wish for concealment. You are at liberty to make known to any gentleman desiring information, my name, and condition, or to send him a copy of my arms, etc.

Richard ap Davidd Daron.

North Wales, Jan. 19.

Frederick the Great, while reviewing some troops, observed a soldier with the scar of a deep cut across the cheek. The king asked him, "At what ale-house did you get that scratch?" "At Cöslin, please your Majesty, where your Majesty paid the reckoning," was the prompt reply. How many are now in the same condition, but who has to pay the reckoning has yet to be seen?

The Fifth volume of Current Notes, with Index, in extra cloth boards, uniform with the prior volumes; may now be had, price Three Shillings.

The present number being the commencement of a new year, Subscribers are respectfully reminded that their subscription for the forthcoming twelve months which are now due, can be forwarded in Postage Stamps.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXII.] "Takes note of what is done—
By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [FEBRUARY, 1856.

GREAT OYER OF POISONING.*

SIR THOMAS OVERBURY, KNIGHT, ÆTAT. XXXII.

At a period when the public attention is arrested by the numerous accusations against individuals for having insidiously exercised their skill in dispensing deadly poisons to their kindred and wives; the case of Sir Thomas Overbury occurs to excite our most particular observation, seeing that of all others, from the position of the murderers, the distinction of their characters, the malevolence of the conspiracy, and the range it was in purpose to have taken, it has no equal in history, neither before or since the perpetration of that diabolical deed.

The volume bearing the above title, embodies much that has not hitherto been printed, nor have the original papers been perused, or used by the historians of the reign of James the First, who seems to have been the presiding spirit of every bad quality, and by the subserviency of men, whose education should have embued them with more independence of character, many most disgraceful traits occur, simply from the reason to court his favour, and impose upon his weakness. The Howards of that day appear to have largely partaken of the royal patronage, and to have been utterly unworthy. The marriage of Lady Frances Howard with Robert D'Evreux, Earl of Essex; the bridegroom but fourteen years of age, and the bride not more than thirteen, has been celebrated in history by Ben Jonson's highly poetical espousal drama, the Masque of Hymen. This was the first characteristical event in a long series of incidents, all tending to an unexampled career of guilty enjoyment, magnificence, crime, and degradation. Her intrigues, young as she was, were continued in such a reckless course, that she seemed to be abandoned to all sense of shame. She intrigued with Prince Henry, and her general wantonness became so flagrant, that even he retired from her in disgust. As a woman thwarted in her object she appears to have breathed revenge, and according to the admission of Anne Turner, whose conduct was more memorable subsequently, the Prince was deprived of affording the Countess of Essex further provocation, by poisoned grapes at Woodstock.

Robert Carr, a countryman of King James, became the favourite of the monarch, and disgusting as in all particulars that connexion appears to have been,* the Countess, and her uncle, Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton, recognised in him the means of their further advancement, no matter by what crimes it was achie ed, and these conspiracies would seem to have been contrived at the now Northumberland House, in the Strand.

* The Trial of the Earl of Somerset, for the poisoning of Sir Thomas Overbury; edited by Andrew Amos, Esq., late member of the Supreme Council of India; Recorder of Nottingham, Oxford, and Banbury; Auditor and Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, etc., with portraits, 8vo., pp. 552. The work recently published by Mr. Bentley, at FOURTEEN SHILLINGS, having become the property of Messrs. Willis and Sotheran, has been by them reduced in price to FOUR SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE.

The woodcut is from a print engraved by Reginald Elstracke, shortly after Sir Thomas Overbury's death; it is of such extreme rarity, that at General Dowdeswell's sale, Sir Mark M. Sykes purchased an impression for fifty pounds. On the dispersion of the Sykes' collection, Woodburn was the buyer at seventy-four guineas.

* When the widow of Sir Walter Raleigh supplicated the king's mercy, and implored him to restore to her and her children Raleigh's forfeited estate of Sherborne Castle, with brutish feeling he denied her the boon, exclaiming—"I mun have it for Carr." If this fact cannot pass in the present day without exciting indignation, what must have been the feeling produced by this atrocious act on the contemporaries of Raleigh and Carr?

It was proposed to sue for a divorce between the Countess and the Earl of Essex, and to effect a marriage between her and this satellite of kingly adoption—King James not only sanctioned the proceedings, but impatiently urged them on, and dictated their final conclusion. The Countess, notwithstanding the flagrancy of her conduct, protested her innocence, and the jury of matrons who were employed on the occasion were deluded by the substitution of the daughter of Sir Thomas Mounson, who being thickly veiled eluded the detection of her identity. The divorce took place, but Overbury, who knew her infamous bearings, and appears to have been the successful director of Carr in his onward course, and to have really entertained a true friendship for him, endeavoured in every possible way to prevent the marriage—one that has no equal on record, as having been followed by consequences in which morality, law, and religion were so greatly outraged for the indulgence of guilty and impetuous passions.

Overbury was, by all the parties, considered as an impediment to the marriage—how to get rid of him was the subject of many consultations. It was proposed to involve him in a quarrel with one of the courtiers, and thus obtain his imprisonment. There were none who would quarrel with him, and the scheme failed. Sir Davie Wood, in some proceeding, had sought Carr's interest, and he consented, provided Overbury should be a sharer with him; this failed, and Sir Davie imbibed a hatred of Overbury, who he considered was the sole cause of his non-success. The Countess, aware of this ill-feeling, sought, under the promise of one thousand pounds, to induce Wood to effect Overbury's assassination. Sir Davie accepted the terms, but required a surety from Lord Rochester of a pardon from the king for the act; but as Carr could not ensure that instrument, Wood prudently declined proceeding. To poison Overbury was next determined, but the depriving him of liberty was essential to its accomplishment. Overbury was, by Carr's instigation, appointed to a ministerial appointment abroad; and he treacherously induced Overbury to refuse it; for this, the latter was on April 21, 1613, committed "for contempt" to the Tower. Sir William Waad, the governor, was dismissed under the pretext of unfitness, by having permitted the Lady Arabella Stuart a key to enlarge the limits of her range in the Tower; and succeeded by Sir Gervase Elwes, who "bled" to the tune of 2000*l.* for the place, besides a compliance with conduct required of him; and the gaoler, who had the care of Sir Thomas Overbury, was also moved to make way for Richard Weston, who had been by the Countess specially commended to that appointment. All this was accomplished in the brief space of fifteen days, and the poisoning was commenced on the 9th of May; all intercourse was denied to the unhappy victim of their vengeance, and the particulars detailed in the volume are most appalling. The poison was supplied by James Franklin, a physician, "then dwelling on the back side of the Exchange," and taken to the Countess by Anne Turner, the widow of "a Dr. Turner." From the Countess they passed to Weston, by the hands of Mrs. Turner, with the positive knowledge of Lord Rochester, and the connivance of the Governor Elwes. These poisons, however, operated but slowly, and Rochester, in his frequent visits to the Countess of Essex at her lodgings in Whitehall, having access thereto by a straight long gallery from St. James's Park,* frequently complained of the delay, and expressed doubts whether Weston was not playing the knave, and forgetting to execute his part? The eight several poisons which were administered to Overbury, were first given as a powder to renovate his health, and afterwards introduced in jellies and tarts. Mayerne, the king's physician, was induced to send Overbury medicine, being then, as stated, in a consumption, and to have been innocently made the tool of the parties by commending as medical attendant, one Paul de Lobell, an apothecary dwelling in Lime-street, near the Tower. This latter, for the sum of twenty pounds, administered a clyster, on Sept. 14th,† that ended all anxieties on the part of the persons involved in the guilty transaction.‡ Sir Thomas Overbury, already prostrated by the frequent appliance of the poison, which Weston affirmed to have been sufficient to destroy twenty other men, was a mass of sores, and reduced to skin and bone, expired about five o'clock in the morning of Wednesday, Sept. 15, 1613, and was buried in the body of the choir of the church within the Tower, between three and four p.m. on that day. Rochester was created Earl of Somerset in November following, and their marriage took place on St. Stephen's day, with unexampled pomp. Murder may for a time be hidden from mortal ken, but some unforeseen circumstance generally uplifts the veil, and discloses the villainy. The assertion that Sir Thomas Overbury had been poisoned obtained sufficient notice, that the individuals concerned were at length charged with criminality, but not till after the death of the Earl of Northampton, he who had been the main contriver, and possibly suggested the poisons, and their mode of application. He died June 15, 1614, and escaped a deservedly ignominious fate. Weston was charged in the indictment with having administered to Overbury certain poisons severally named, between May 9 and September 14; this last was not proved, but Weston, Franklin, Elwes, and Anne Turner, all perished by the hand of the hangman; their trials are embodied in this volume, and divulge astounding facts

* Through this same "straight long gallery" Charles the First passed to Whitehall on the morning of his execution, January 30, 1649.

† The charge, though urged against Weston, was not established, nor did Lobell, a Frenchman, appear in the affair; the clyster was administered by Lobell's assistant, William Reeve, who was sent to Paris immediately afterwards, by Lobell, senior, to be out of reach of enquiry, and the fact transpired years after, on the confession of Reeve.

‡ Their satiety in Overbury's blood was not sufficient for their resentment. Franklin and Turner, both spoke of other persons who were to have been poisoned by the instigation of the Earl and Countess; among them were the Princess Elizabeth and the Palsgrave Frederic.

as to their depravity of character, and the condition to which each had been brought by the gold and chicanery of both the Earl and the Countess.

At length the Countess was tried on May 24, 1616, she pleaded guilty, but hoped for mercy; and being pregnant, had determined not to perish on the scaffold, but to accomplish her own death by the placing of a wet towel upon the abdomen after being delivered of the infant.* The Earl was tried on the following day, but denied all; his peers, however, found him guilty. James, who had sworn to pardon no one implicated in the affair, yet pardoned them; the new favorite, George Villiers, extinguished every idea of Somerset's return to favour, and he lived unpitied and contemned.

At the present time, the Great Oyer of Poisoning possesses unusual importance. The evidence in all these cases has been legally investigated; the asserted great luminaries of the law, Coke and Bacon, in their characters, are here shewn to be contemptible parasites, the minions of a base monarch, and to have entertained few higher sentiments, or notions of honour, than their own advantage. The evidence of opinion, and every matter, that has arisen in other cases of atrocity, particularly those of poisoning, are all here carefully canvassed and considered. Documents, highly important, and unpublished, discovered in the State Paper Office, enrich the materials in profusion, and are edited with an aptitude that increases their value.

Camoens.—The newspapers notice the death of Sir Thomas Livingston Mitchell, D.C.L., Surveyor-General of New South Wales, at Sydney, on the 5th of October last, aged 64. He had held this appointment for more than a quarter of a century; and the inhabitants testified their respect for him by a public funeral.

When, in 1853, he came to England for the last time, he brought with him, for publication, a translation of the whole of the Lusiad of Camoens. He had served in his youth, it appears, in the Peninsula, and was inspired with an ardent love for the poetry of Camoens, in consequence of an accidental visit to the celebrated Fount of Tears, in the vicinity of Coimbra, the scene of the murder of Dona Ignez de Castro. In the preface, we are told, the translation was made in a small clipper, during a long and tedious voyage round Cape Horn. E. H. A.

George Weare Braikenridge, Esq., F.S.A. and F.G.S., of Broomwell House, Brislington, near Bristol, died after a few days illness, on the 11th inst., in his eighty-first year. His collections for the History and Topography of the County of Somerset, are of the most varied, extensive, and valuable character.

* This infant was subsequently Anne, Countess of Bedford, and mother of Lord William Russell, who expiated his hatred of the Stuarts by his execution in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields. Qu. Was the infant daughter of Somerset named Anne in compliment to the Queen of James the First?

PARC-AN-CHAPEL, CAPE CORNWALL.

Whilst engaged in collecting materials for the work on the Crosses and Antiquities in the West of Cornwall, referred to in the last number of Current Notes, I had occasion to visit Cape Cornwall in quest of the ruins of an ancient chapel said to be still there; these I found with little difficulty, the spot being well known to many persons in the neighbourhood. In the west of Cornwall are remains of many similar structures, a list and the localities of which, will be found in the work above mentioned.

The woodcut represents the ruins of the chapel at Cape Cornwall; the two walls on the north side, and the east end. The doorway, like that of Madron Well Chapel, is on the northern side: it is two feet wide, and five feet high; and near the east end of the same wall, is a small window, two feet wide.

In the east end, which is between six and seven feet high, is a comparatively large window, measuring on the inside six feet in width; but it is less on the outside. The eastern part of the side, as seen in the woodcut, was faced with hewn stone, no doubt denoting the length of the chancel. On the south side all that remains is the foundation. A modern building for cattle has been erected at the extremity of the northern wall, and on my last visit to the spot, I found the eastern part of the chapel covered in, and used for a similar purpose.

Externally, the length of the building is thirty-two feet, the width twelve feet. On the north side are remains of a wall which seems to have formed a circular enclosure around the chapel; this was the chapel-yard, and it is remarkable that the boundary wall of Madron Well Chapel was of a similar form.

This building has been called or known as St. Helen's Oratory; and in a water course near the ruins was found a small cross, supposed to have been the gable cross that formerly pertained to this structure; it has since been placed in the chancel of St. Just church.*

Penzance, Feb. 14. J. T. Blight.

* The Rev. J. Buller, in his Account of St. Just's parish, 1842, p. 45, alludes to this discovery in these words:—

The cross which once embellished the little chapel is of the rudest form, and was rescued a few years since by him who records the fact, from the artificial water-course which passes near, in which it was immersed.

It may now be seen preserved as a valuable relic in the chancel of the parish church, with a brass-plate denoting its ancient locality.

PARC-AN-CHAPEL, CAPE CORNWALL.

The warlike tribes which in the earliest period of her history occupied Britain, appear to have seized on every spot of vantage ground to construct places of defence. In many instances portions of the cliffs on the sea coast, accessible only on the land side, were by them converted into strongholds, by artificial fortifications in that direction. The bold promontory of Cape Cornwall affords an example of this kind of fortress, or cliff castle. Three parallel lines were constructed across the low neck of land by which it is approached; each had its ditch and rampart; and was extended from cliff to cliff on either side. Between these lines some very old enclosures have been made, and the land cultivated; the spade and the mattock have indeed, year after year, been so busy with the old fortifications, that the casual visitor may pass through without observing them; but he cannot well fail to see among these enclosures, a low roofless ruin, which on inspection will be found to have been erected with a considerable degree of care, at a distant period. The quoins and courses of the eastern portion of the building are of well cut granite; and in the eastern gable are the remains of a comparatively large window, which in its internal display exhibits some fine proportions.

The entrance to this ruin is by an arched doorway in the north wall, near the western end, and facing the Bristol Channel, or, if you like it—the Irish Sea.

On the south side, near the western end, and in close connection, is another building that appears to have been erected at the same time. This, within a few years, has been neatly roofed over with slate, and is used for the purposes of an outbuilding to the little farm there. A small and rude enclosure nearly encircles the ruin. If the tenant, who lives in the cottage hard by, or any of his family who may happen to be working on the land, are asked the name of this spot, the enquirer will be told—Parc-an-Chapel, or the Chapel in the Field. He may also hear, that whilst the church at St. Just was some years since being restored under the inspection of the Rev. J. Buller, then vicar, he caused to be conveyed thither from this locality, a cross that belonged to the chapel.

I cannot undertake to say there may not have been another Parc-an-Chapel hereabouts, and now destroyed; or, that I may have been misinformed as to the name of the ruin here described; but as a ruin, I believe, it is still extant.

Exon, February 1. H. A. C.

LETTER SEALS.—What is the surest method of sealing letters, so that they may not be opened *in transitu?*

Ryde, Isle of Wight, Feb. 11. A. F. T.

No more effective security for sealed letters has been devised than simply using a wafer to a non-adhesive envelope, and then applying a thin layer of the finest sealing wax. This impressed with the seal bids defiance to their being opened without shewing the attempted violation. The wax not to extend beyond the size of the seal. The application of heat or steam will only harden the wafer.

MADRON BAPTISTERY AND WELL.

Some additional particulars respecting Madron Well, with a detailed account of the rites observed by those who sought its healing waters, are given in Observations on an Ancient Manuscript, entitled Passio Christi, written in the Cornish language, and now in the Bodleian Library; with an account of the Language, Manners, and Customs of the people of Cornwall, by William Scawen, Esq., Vice-Warden of the Stannaries. The paper will be found in Davies Gilbert's Parochial History of Cornwall, Vol. IV. p. 190. The writer lived in the Stuart reigns, and was a prisoner under Shrubsall, the Parliamentarian Governor of Pendennis Castle.

Bodmin, February 6, THOMAS Q. COUCH.

Of St. Mardren's Well, (which is a parish west to the Mount) a fresh true story of two persons, both of them lame and decrepit, thus recovered from their infirmity. These two persons, after they had applied themselves to divers physicians and chirurgeons for cure, and finding no success by them, they resorted to St. Mardren's Well, and according to the ancient custom, of which they had heard, the same which was once in a year, to wit, on Corpus Christi evening, to lay some small offering on the altar there, and to lie on the ground all night, drink of the water there, and in the morning after, to take a good draught more, and to take and carry away some of the water each of them in a bottle, at their departure. This course these two men followed, and within three weeks they found the effect of it, and by degrees their strength increasing, were able to move themselves on crutches. The year following, they took the same course, after which they were able to go with the help of a stick; and at length one of them, John Thomas, being a fisherman, was, and is able at this day, to follow his fishing craft. The other, whose name was William Cork, was a soldier under the command of my kinsman, Colonel William Godolphin, (as he has often told me) was able to perform his duty, and died in the service of his majesty, King Charles the First.

But herewith take also this: one Mr. Hutchins, a person well known in those parts, and now lately dead, being parson of Ludgvan, a near neighbouring parish to St. Mardren's Well, he observing that many of his parishioners often frequented this well superstitiously, for which he reproved them privately, and sometimes publicly in his sermons; but afterwards, he the said Mr. Hutchins, meeting with a woman coming from the well with a bottle in her hand, desired her earnestly that he might drink thereof, being then troubled with cholical pains, which accordingly he did, and was eased of his infirmity.

The latter story is a full confutation of the former for if the taking the water accidentally thus prevailed upon the party to his cure, as it is likely it did, then the miracle which it was intended to be by the ceremony of lying on the ground and offering, is wholly fled, and it leaves the virtue of the water to be the true cause of the cure. And we have here, as in many places of the land, great variety of salutary springs, having diversity of operations, which by natural reason have been found to be productive of good effects, and not by miracle, as the vain fancies of monks and friars have been exercised in heretofore.

Schiller's works are prohibited by the Austro-Italian bishops.

MADRON WELL CHAPEL.

Several interesting particulars on the subject of Madron Well Chapel having appeared in Current Notes, I doubt not the following remarks, embodied in a letter dated Penzance, May 17, 1819, for the purpose of eliciting some elucidation of the enquiries then made, will be interesting to your readers.

Penzance, Feb. 4. H.

In Cornwall there are several wells which bear the name of some patron saint, who appears to have had a chapel consecrated to him, or her, on the spot. This appears by the name of Chapel Saint, attached by tradition to each. These chapels probably were simply Oratories, but in the parish of Maddern [now spelled Madron], is a well called "Maddern Well," inclosed in a complete Baptistery: the walls, seats, doorway, and altar of which still remain. The socket, that received the base of the crucifix, or pedestal of the saint's image, is perfect; and the foundations of the outer walls is apparent. The whole ruin is very picturesque, and I wonder it is passed over in so slight a manner by all Cornish historians, and particularly by Borlase, who speaks merely of the virtues superstitiously ascribed to the waters.

I was surprised at being informed that the superstitious of the neighbourhood attend on the first Thursday in May to consult this oracle by dropping pins, etc. Why on the Thursday? May not this be some vestige of the day on which the baptisteries were opened after their being kept closed and sealed during Lent, which was on Maundy Thursday? My informant told me that Thursday was the particular day of the week, though some came on the second and third Thursday.* May was the first month after Easter, when the waters had been especially blessed; for then was the great time of baptism. When I visited this Well last week, I found a Polianthus and some article of an infant's dress, which shewed that votaries had been there. After the sixth century, these baptisteries were removed into the Church. I will thank any of your readers who can inform me whether there are any other remains of the kind in this country so perfect, and I shall be much obliged at a probable guess at the age of this building, and for any other information that may induce me to revisit it with increased motives of admiration.

LINES TO HIS EXCELLENCY ELFI BEY,
on his Visit to the
Printing Office of the Morning Chronicle,
Nov. 28, 1803.

(Printed from Professor Porson's Manuscript.)

Hail to the CHIEF, who with a Patriot's zeal,
Wooes BRITAIN's friendship for his Country's weal;
Who, having fought and triumph'd in her cause,
Now seeks to cultivate her ARTS and LAWS:
Who views our Isle in conscious vigour bold,
For EUROPE's Peace her energies unfold.
Would he the secret of our strength explore,
And bear it back to ÆGYPT's fruitful shore?
Oh, may the secret to the earth belong!
The FREEDOM that enlightens makes us strong.

No. 145, Strand. JAMES PERRY.

* The practice for some time past has been to bring diseased children to the Well, on the first three Sundays in May. H.

PREDICTED SUBVERSION OF THE TURKISH EMPIRE.

Among the books presented by Lady Campden to Sion College Library, is a copy of Francisci Quaresmii Elucidatio Terræ Sanctæ, Antv. 1639, folio; in the first volume of that work, at p. 265, is the following passage. The reference is to Francesco Navarro, Discurso sobre la Conjuncion Maxima, que fue en Deziembre del año 1603.

Circa quod priore loco propositus est, possumus hujus scriptoris sententiam ad quinque articulos reducere. Primus sit. Mahometa secta, cum suis sectatoribus et singulariter Turcicum Imperium, in spiritualibus et temporalibus finem habebit intra spatium annorum 251, tot enim dumtaxat illi supersunt.

Quando vero hæc scribebat Doctor Navarrus, vertebatur annus nostræ salutis 1604, quare secundum istum anno 1855, vel circiter, quoad tam spiritualia quam temporalia (hæc enim duo ritè in Mahometica Secta et Imperio Turcico Auctor ille considerat) cessabit et finem habebit perdita ista superstitio.

Articulus quartus: Hoc regnum et secta penitus destructa et abolita erunt anno Domini 1854, vel 1856.

This prediction may be thus translated:—

Concerning that which is mentioned in the former place, we are able to reduce the opinion of this writer, viz.—Francis Navarre, to five points.

First, that the Mahommedan sect with its adherents, especially the Turkish Empire, will, both in its spiritual and temporal power, come to an end within the space of 251 years, for so many only remain to it.

When Dr. Navarre wrote this, the year A.D. 1604 was completed, hence according to him, in the year 1855, that abandoned superstition both in its spiritual and temporal power (for such is the Mahommedan sect and Turkish Empire justly considered by this author;) will cease and come to an end.

The fourth point is, that this kingdom and sect will be entirely destroyed and done away with, A.D. 1854, or 1856.

When it is considered that this presage was really written two centuries and a half since; and the fact of the acceptation by the Sultan and his ministers of the requirements made to them by England and France, it will be seen that this prediction has virtually happened! The passive Turk may no longer oppress the Christian, and the bolder energies of the latter will finally subvert Mahommedanism; the Cross will be exalted to the exclusion of the Crescent, and this certain and rapid declension may be dated from 1856. This vast revolutionary change has been no less forced on the Turk, by the aggressions of Russia, than by the obstinacy of the ruling powers of the Turkish Empire, till at length unable in the presence of the allied powers to defend the tyrannical dogmas of their faith, an effectual change has been demanded, and the events of 1854 and 1855, were the unmistakeable precursors of what has happened, and will farther advance during 1856.

Adam Mickiewicz, the celebrated Polish poet, was buried in the church of the Madeleine, at Paris, on the 21st ultimo.

EDITIONS OF AMADIS DE GAULA.

The following is a summary of the various editions of the Romances of Amadis; Seville being the city where most of them were printed. The G. annexed implies that there are copies in the Grenville library, now in the British Museum; the P. indicates those in the library at Middle Hill.

I.—IV. Amadis de Gaula,	Salamanca 1519, 1575.
——	Saragoça 1521. P.
——	Sevilla 1526, 1547, 1552, 1575.
——	Venice 1533. G.
V. Esplandian,	Sevilla 1526, 1542. G.
——	Burgos 1526. P.
——	Saragoça 1587.
——	Alcala 1588.
VI. Florisando,	Salamanca 1510 [1519?]
——	Sevilla 1525.
VII. Perion de Gaula,	Sevilla 1525.
——	Toledo 1539.
——	Saragoça 1587. P.
——	Lisbona 1587.
VIII. Lisuarte de Grecia,	Sevilla 1526. P.
IX. Amadis de Grecia,	Burgos 1535.
——	Sevilla 1542. G. and P.
——	Lisbona 1596.
X. Florisel de Niquea,	Valladolid 1532. G.
——	Lisbona 1566.
——	Sevilla 1568.
——	Saragoça, 1584. P.
XI. Rogel de Grecia,	Sevilla 1536, 1546, 1568.
——	Evora, not dated, 15 . .. P.
XII. Silves de la Selva,	Sevilla 1546. P.

XIII. Esferamundus, mentioned, but no place.

The order in which these Romances appeared will be best illustrated by the following genealogy:—

Perion, whose deeds are not recorded=

I.-IV. Amadis de Gaula= Florestan=

V. Esplandian= VII. Perion de Gaula. VI. Florisando.

VIII. Lisuarte de Grecia=

IX. Amadis de Grecia=

X. Florisel de Niquea=

XI. Rogel de Grecia=

XII. Silves de la Selva=

XIII. Esferamundus

Middle Hill, Feb. 3. T. P.

POETRY takes its origin from emotion recollected in tranquillity. *Wordsworth.*

NOTES ON SIR WALTER SCOTT'S LETTER.

I have had great pleasure in perusing the inedited letter of Sir Walter Scott, printed in Current Notes, pp. 4–5. My father for many years rented a farm of Mr. Ellis, to whom it was addressed; and from the kindness that gentleman evinced towards myself, I ever respect his memory. At the sale of his library in May 1830, shortly after his decease, I made several purchases, but omitted to secure his copy of Froissart, with the elaborate Index to that work, in his beautiful handwriting. This was often to me a cause of regret, as I lost all trace of where it had gone; but in 1841, at the sale of the library of the Rev. John Dodd, late Vicar of this town, I obtained it, and the book with the Index is now in my possession. The latter is in foolscap size, of about 150 closely written pages. I never saw or heard of another copy; Scott's request as to the liberty of printing, appears to have failed of success.

My father once saw James Allan at Harbottle-fair, in a room crowded with people: he was chanting some verses of a song, and accompanying them on the pipes, making his instrument almost *speak* any word of double meaning, which he himself hesitated to utter. The Alnwick work upon him, was the first edition of his Life printed in that town; later editions of the volume were printed here, by Mackenzie and Dent. The particulars relating to Ringan Oliver and the Marquis of Lothian were communicated by James Veitch of Inchbonny, not Inchbinny, in a letter now before me dated June 21, 1836, and addressed to my worthy friend, Mr. James Telfer of Saughtree, Liddesdale, who wrote a good ballad on the subject, reprinted in his volume of Tales and Ballads, published in 1852. It is likely he will include this letter among his Border Gatherings. a work on which he is at present engaged.

I remember seeing James Veitch several times at Jedburgh; he was a tall stout man dressed like a superior workman, and wore a leather apron not over clean, much rounded at the bottom, and so short that it did not reach his knees. Besides being a first-rate maker of refracting and reflecting Telescopes, he made several pairs of spectacles for the neighbouring gentry; and an eight-day clock for Sir Walter Scott, which I have no doubt still indicates the hours at Abbotsford. A small white globe, not quite a foot in diameter, projecting from the wall, at the west corner of his house at Inchbonny, served the purpose of a sun-dial. His family were distinguished for mechanical genius. From his father's sister descended another friend of mine, James Thomson of Otterburn, who from the extent of his scientific acquirements, was possibly a still more remarkable man than his successful relative.

The lines to which allusion is made, are not on the North Tyne, which is a slip in Sir Walter's recollection, but are entitled—The Marriage of the Coquet and the Alwine; forming one of the poetical Tracts edited for the Typographical Society of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in 1817, by the late Mr. John Adamson. They are written after the manner of Drayton, in his Marriage of the

Tame and the Isis, in the fifteenth song of Poly Olbion. The author's name appears to have been Shepherd, which for his own reasons the Editor very carefully concealed. I have an old manuscript copy of the poem bearing L. T., as the initials of the author.

The Lay of the Reedwater Minstrel was written by my late friend, Robert Roxby; the original manuscript is in my collection. Mr. Roxby, in conjunction with Mr. Thomas Doubleday, wrote the Coquet-dale Fishing Songs, of which an elegant edition was published in 1852, by Messrs. Blackwood.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Feb. 6. ROBERT WHITE.

MODERN CONSERVATORS OF ANCIENT ART.

A letter dated Naples, January 8, states, "an act recently committed here, has created as much indignation and ridicule among artistic persons, as the outrages of Mazza did lately in the political world. The group of the Rape of the Sabines, that has adorned the Villa Reale ever since the time of Charles the Third, has been removed from the public gardens. The group is a copy of the celebrated work of John of Bologna, and has not been imagined generally as capable of awakening any prurient thought, but within the last week has been condemned, muffled in canvas, and committed to the prisons of the Museum. The same fate it is said awaits the Rape of Europa, and the Rape of Proserpine, now in the Villa Reale. The Venuses of the Museum and the Nereid, are already locked up, and one unfortunate Venus, the Vincitrice of Capua, which had escaped priestly wrath, is soon to be laid hands on. Condemned to be no better than they should be, they are to be placed under lock and key—a fact! and this in a city where the foulest acts and sights present themselves every hour in the day, to the passenger; where a foreign lady can scarcely walk without blushing, and all these impurities which befoul the streets might be prevented by stringent directions to the police, from the men whose modesty they affect is shocked by a Sabine or a Venus. It is but due, that in the interests of art, such absurdities should be made known to the civilised world."

BELFRY RHYMES. BOWDEN RINGERS ORDERS.

You Ringers all, observe these Orders well!
He pays his Sixpence, that o'erturns a Bell;
And he that Rings with either spur or hat,
Must pay his Sixpence certainly for that;
And He that Rings and does disturb the Peal,
Must pay his Sixpence, or a Gun of Ale.
These Laws elsewhere in ev'ry Church are used,
That Bells and Ringers may not be abused.

According to Halliwell's Dictionary of Archaisms and Provincialisms, Gun is a north country word, for a large flagon of ale. Unde, "Son of a gun, implies a merry, jovial, drunken fellow."

Rectory, Clyst St. George, Feb. 2. H. T. E.

COINAGE OF EDWARD THE FIRST.

Some months since I proposed that a complete list of all Edward the First and Second's pennies should be published in Current Notes; and now forward a list of those which have come under my notice, and shall feel much obliged if any of your readers who are interested in Numismatics would add to it any varieties. The basis of this list is Mr. Hawkins's Account of the Tutbury and Wyke "finds," in neither of which is the presence or absence of the marks of abbreviation of the EDW R' noticed—in the following list I shall presume this to be found on all the coins.

The London mint is placed first in the list, as emanating from the seat of regal authority: the provincial mints follow in alphabetical order.

Nottingham. F. R. N. HASWELL.

LONDON.

In the word ANGL the G is invariably of the gothic character, the lower part curled inward.

1. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
   CIVI TAS LON DON Letters large; m.m. a large cross, with a long line at each end.

A variety has the DN in DNS; and ON in LONDON, in monogram. Another has a colon after EDW R:

2. As no. 1, but with two dots on breast, intended for a brooch.
3. Obv., as no. 1. Rev. CIVI SAT LON DON
4. As no. 1, but the letters are smaller; the coin is itself less in size than the former.
5. As no. 4, but m.m. still smaller, and a star on the breast at junction of mantle.
6. As no. 5, but on the reverse, the pellets overlay each other like scales.
7. As no. 3, m.m. a cross pattée, with a small line in continuation of each horizontal limb.
8. •EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
   •CIVI TAS LON DON As no. 1, but with pellets before legends.
9. As no. 8, but with pellet only on reverse before the legend.
10. As no. 2, with dot or pellet before LONDON on the reverse.
11. As no. 10, but the letter N on the obverse is in English character; on the reverse in Roman.
12. As no. 2, but with a peculiarly formed cross on reverse before LONDON, the horizontal bar being simply a line.
13. As no. 1, the cross plain, not pattée at the ends. The letters rather large.
14. As no. 2, on reverse HB in place of HYB
15. EDW RE ANGL DNϩ YB
    CIVI TAS LON DON Letters large.
16. EDW REX ANGL DNS HYB
    CIVI TAS LON DON Letters small.
17. Bust in Triangle. Reverse, CIVITAS LONDON Cuff's Sale Catalogue, nos. 785 and 786.
18. As no. 16, but on obverse, a rose on the King's breast. Cuff, no. 785.

19. As no. 16, on rev. CIVITAS LVNDEN Cuff, no. 786.

BERWICK.

20. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ABE REV VICI Letters and cross large.
21. As. no. 20, but letters small.
22. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ABE RRE WICI Letters small.
23. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
: VIL LAB ERE VICI Letters small.
24. EDW R ANGL DNS HYD. Thus on the coin.
VIL ABE REV VICI Letters small. Roman E.
25. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ABE RE WICI In place of pellets, on reverse, a bear's head in one of the quarters.

BRISTOL.

26. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ABR ISTO LLIE Letters and cross large.
27. As no. 26, but with very broad cross on reverse. Altogether a better minted coin than usual.
28. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL BRI STO LIE Letters and cross small.
29. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB Star on breast:
VILL BRI STO LIE
30. As no. 29.
VILL ABR ISTO LLIЄ

CANTERBURY.

31. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS CAN TOR Large letters, similar to no. 1.
32. As no. 31, but Saxon Є on obverse.
33. As no. 31, but smaller in all respects.
34. As no. 33; star on king's breast. Coin smaller than the preceding.
35. •EDW R ANGL DNS HYB. Brooch on breast.
•CIVI TAS CAN TOR. Similar to no. 31.
36. As no. 35, but no brooch on breast.
37. As no. 36; the pellet before legend on reverse.
38. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB Two dots on king's breast.
CIVI TAS CAN •TOR As no. 31.

CHESTER.

39. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS CES TRIE Letters and cross large.
40. Obverse and reverse similar to no. 39; but letters and cross smaller.
41. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS SESTRIE Coin in all respects smaller than the preceding.
42. Obverse as no. 41.
CIVI TAS ECES TRIE

DURHAM.

43. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB Cross pattée.
CIVI TAS DVR EME Large letters.
44. As no. 43, but cross and letters smaller.
45. As no. 44. Star on king's breast.
46. ЄDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS DVR ЄMIIЄ Small letters.
47. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS DVR EME Large letters. Mint mark, on reverse, a cross moline (Bp. Beck, 1283-1311.)
48. As no. 47, but small letters.
49. As no. 47. Cross moline m.m. before legend on obverse and reverse.
50. As no. 48. Star on king's breast; the cross moline m.m. on obverse only.
51. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIV ITA SDVR EME Cross moline m.m. before legend obverse and reverse. Letters small.
52. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS EME DVR The syllables transposed; large letters.
53. As no. 47; but on reverse, in one quarter, a cross moline instead of pellets.

ST. EDMUNDSBURY.

54. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL SCIE DMV NDI Letters small.
55. As no. 54. Star on king's breast. Letters small.
56. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB Brooch on breast.
VIL LAS EDM VNDI Letters large.
57. Obverse as no. 54.
VILA SCI EDM VNDI Letters small.
58. Obverse as no. 54.
VILA SCIE DMV NDI
59. Obverse as no. 54.
VILA SCI EDM VNDI
60. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
ROBE RTDE HADE LEIE Large letters. Cross small and plain.

A variety has the RO and the DE on reverse, braced as monograms.

Robert de Hadley was moneyer here in 1280. His coins are the last in the English Series on which the name of the Moneyer ostensibly appears.

61. As no. 60, but with Saxon Є.
62. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
ROBE RTVS DEH ADL' Letters small.
63. EDW R ANGL DNS HIB Reverse similar to no. 60.
64. Obverse as no. 62.
ROBЄ RTV SDEH ADL'
65. Obverse, bust in a triangle. Reverse as no. 60. Cuff's Sale Catalogue, no. 785.
66. Obverse as no. 65. Reverse similar to no. 62

EXETER.

67. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB Star on breast.
CIVITAS EXONIE Small letters.

Another, similar type; no star on the breast.

KINGSTON-UPON-HULL.

68. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB Star on breast.
VILL KYN GES TON Small letters.

69. ЄDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL' KYN GЄS TON

LINCOLN.

70. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS LIN COL Large letters.
71. As no. 70; but reverse showing mark of abbreviation LIN COL'

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

72. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ANO VICA STRI
In the N of the word ANGL on obverse, is a dot or roundel. Cross and letters large.
73. As no. 72, but no dot as above.
74. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL NOVI CAS TRI Letters small.
75. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL' NOVI CAS TRI
76. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB Star on breast.
VILL NOV CAS TRI Letters small.
77. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
VIL NOV CAS TRI

YORK.

78. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS EBO RACI Large letters.
79. Obverse as no. 78.
CIVI TAS EBOR ACI Large letters.
80. Obverse and reverse legends same as no. 78; but a star on the king's breast, and letters smaller.
81. Same as no. 80., but having on reverse a quatrefoil in centre of cross.
82. Obverse and reverse, same as no. 78. A cross on the king's breast, and quatrefoil on reverse as no. 81. Letters large.
83. As no. 82, but small letters.
84. ЄDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS EBO RACI
A variety has on obverse the name thus, ЄDVV.

DUBLIN, IRELAND.

85. EDW R' ANGL DNS HYB A dot below bust.
CIVITAS DVBLINIE Small letters.
86. As no. 85, but EDW R' on obverse.
87. Legends same as no. 85; but the letters on obverse are small; large on the reverse.
88. Legends as no. 85, but two dots below the king's bust. Letters large.
89. As no. 88, but small letters.
90. Legends as no. 85; two dots below bust; the letters on obverse small, on the reverse large.
91. As no. 85. A brooch in addition to dot on king's breast.
92. ЄDW. R' ANGL' DNS HYB
CIVITAS DVBLINIE. On obverse, two dots and a third for brooch on king's breast. Letters large.
93. •ЄDW • R • ANGL DNS HYB
Reverse as no. 85. Letters large.
94. •EDW. R. ANGL. DNS HYB. Two dots below bust.
Reverse as no. 85.
95. ЄDW R ANGL' DNS HYB' A dot below bust.
Reverse as no. 85.

WATERFORD.

96. •EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVITAS WATERFOR
97. •EDW. R' ANGL DNS HYB
Reverse, same as no. 94.
98. •ЄDW. R'. ANGL DNS HYB Two dots below bust. Letters larger than usual.
CIVITAS WATERFOR. Limb of the R's turned up, with a dot under each.
99. •EDW. R. ANGL. DNS HYB
CIVI TAS WATE RFOR Letters small.
100. •ЄDW R'. ANGL'. DNS HYB Two dots below bust.
CIVITAS VATEFOR' Letters small.

CORK.

101. ЄDW R' ANGL DNS HYII Dot below bust.
CIVITAS CORCACIЄ Letters small.

There are varieties of nos. 4, 12, and 11, with the English Є on obverse. Of no. 40, with Roman C on reverse; and one of no. 14 with R's similar to those noticed in no. 98.

BAKER'S DOZEN.—What is the right meaning of the phrase, a baker's dozen?

Diss, Feb. 7. S. L. S.

Thirteen as twelve, which has long been the custom. Taylor, the Water-poet, in his Travels of Twelve Pence, notices—

How bakers thirteene penny loaues doe giue,
All for a shilling, and thriue well, and liue.

So also, Margaret, Duchess of Newcastle, in her Nature's Picture, 1656, folio, observes—

In this volume there are several feigned stories; also, there are some Morals, and some Dialogues; but they are as the advantage loaf of bread to the baker's dozen.

CREATION OF PEERS FOR LIFE.

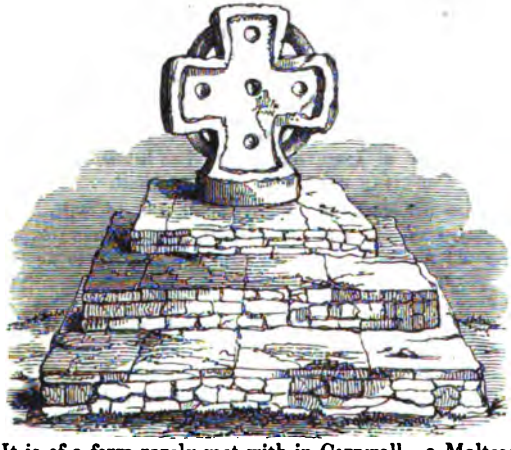
The opponents to the unquestionably constitutional and legal prerogative vested in the Queen's authority to create Peers for life, appear to have purposely omitted any reference to Blackstone, who in his Commentaries, p. 401, observes:—

Creation by writ has one advantage over that by patent: for a person created by writ holds the dignity to him *and his heirs*, without any words to that purport in the writ; but in letters patent there must be words to direct the inheritance, else the dignity ensues only to the grantee for life.* For a man or woman may be created noble for their own lives, and the dignity not descend to their heirs at all, or descend only to some particular heirs: as where a peerage is limited to a man, and the heirs male of his body by Elizabeth his present lady, and not to such heirs by any former or future wife.

* Co. Litt., 9, 16. See 1 Woodes. 87.

CROSS AT ST. BURYAN, CORNWALL.

The antiquity of Crosses everywhere, but especially in Cornwall, is an old and somewhat worn subject, but I consider one in the churchyard of St. Buryan in that county, is entitled to more than a passing notice. I have looked into all the Cornish histories at my command, but in none of them do I find the Buryan Cross engraved. The Rev. W. Haslam, known as the discoverer of the old Oratory of Perran Zabuloe; not many years since engraved some of the Cornish Crosses, which in that part are very abundant, two of them were in St. Buryan parish, but that of which I forward a sketch is a third.



It is of a form rarely met with in Cornwall—a Maltese cross surrounded by a circle; a beautiful emblem of the eternal efficacy of the Atonement. On one side, somewhat mutilated and time-worn, is the crucified Christ; on the other, as shewn in the sketch, are the emblems of the five wounds received on Calvary.

The devotional character and thought about this Cross may well serve as a suggestion for the church restorers of the nineteenth century.

I should be glad to know the order in which the various forms of crosses may be arranged, from the Latin cross, to the more elaborate sculpture of the decorated period of English architects. Where may such a classification be found?

Feb. 12. T. H. PATTISON.

HOYLE.—Huddesford in his Catalogue of Anthony Wood's Manuscripts, in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, describes, no. 8466, as an account of the Nobility and Gentry, buried at Oxford, since 1643, etc. Among the persons noticed is JOSHUA HOYLE, Master of University College, and Regius Professor of Divinity.

TALBOIS.—No. 8465, in the same Collection, is a folio volume of Pedigrees of the Nobility and Gentry of England, transcribed by Ralph Sheldon of Beoley; among them is one of the TALBOIS family.

THE CRIMEA SEVENTY YEARS SINCE.

Blinded by political prejudices, England appears to have turned a deafened ear to all the aspirations of warning against the aggressions of the Russians in the Black Sea, abetted as they have been by the assistance or connivance of both Austria and Prussia. No one who reads Capt. Sutherland's Tour from Gibraltar to Constantinople, printed in 1790, will fail being impressed with surprise that warnings so broadly and so unequivocally expressed, should have failed in exciting a more particular attention on the part of successive governments in England to our national interests. The Russian fleet in the Black Sea was then officered by Englishmen, and under their superior abilities and nautical experience, in the bay of Chisemê inflicted a fatal blow to the Turkish Empire, and created that naval supremacy for the Russian, which has in 1855 been wholly subverted. The ambitious projects of the Empress Catherine, in 1788, with the entry of the Austrians under the Prince of Saxe Cobourg into Moldavia, created a determined resistance on the part of Turkey, which elicited from Capt. Sutherland the following animated remarks on the cupidity of our rulers.

As an Englishman, policy obliges me to wish success to the Turks. I feel the utmost detestation of the ambitious combination entered into by the Emperor of Austria and the Empress Catherine to extirpate the Turks, merely because Nature has been bountiful to their soil, and because their country promised an easy conquest. These Powers could scarcely imagine that Europe would look on with indifference: but they trusted they had a sufficient party to prevent any open declaration in favour of the injured Turks. These expectations the total suspension of the powers of France must have frustrated.

The writer in calling upon Prussia and England to support the Turk, if on no better terms than the strict observance by Russia of the Treaty of Cainardgie, a treaty which England was bound to redress, observes—

What has become of that spirit of virtue and generosity, which not fifty years since led us to enter into an expensive war, in favour of Maria Theresa, merely because she was then an unfortunate Princess, oppressed by an ambitious neighbour, whose usurpations like those of Russia, threatened in time to affect ourselves.

It is, no doubt, a considerable abatement of the honest joy an Englishman feels in contemplating this act of magnanimity in his ancestors, to find, that ingratitude has been the only return which has been made to us. In cherishing Austria and Russia, we may really be said to have nurtured the viper in our bosom, which in the moment of our distress attempted a mortal wound by forming the *Armed Neutrality*, or in plain language, a combination to supply our enemies with implements for our destruction.

If justice to the Turks, whom we have reduced to so critical a situation; if a sense of our national dignity; if our dearest interest and commercial concerns will not induce us to speak boldly in a moment like this, self-preservation at least should affect us. Let us recollect that Russia is an evil-disposed aspiring child; that we now have it in our power to curb her proud spirit; but that if we neglect this opportunity and allow her to increase in

pride, and in strength, in a few years she may perhaps trample on our breasts.

Pax quæritur in Bello is a favourite motto, but Wars guarded against in peace, is in my opinion a much better one; and this is the motto England ought to choose. There is nothing in the present state of Europe, that Great Britain can in justice require, but what she must immediately gain. Let her then dictate terms to Russia, and check her ambitious views. If she refuses to submit, shew us the Power who at this moment will dare to oppose the serious threats of England? Vengeance would soon overwhelm her.

CENSURE AGAINST SNUFF-TAKING IN CHURCH.

The Sessional Records of Brechin, contain the following reprehension against the taking of snuff during divine service.

1638, Oct. 2. Thomas Will, Alexander Gawin and others, being called in this day before the Sessioun for taking of snuff in tym of divyn seruice, and that publickly to the offence of vthers, ane ewill example to wy^m to doe the lyk, they confessed and promises not to the lyk in tymes to come or wy^r wayes to vnderlye the censur of the Session.

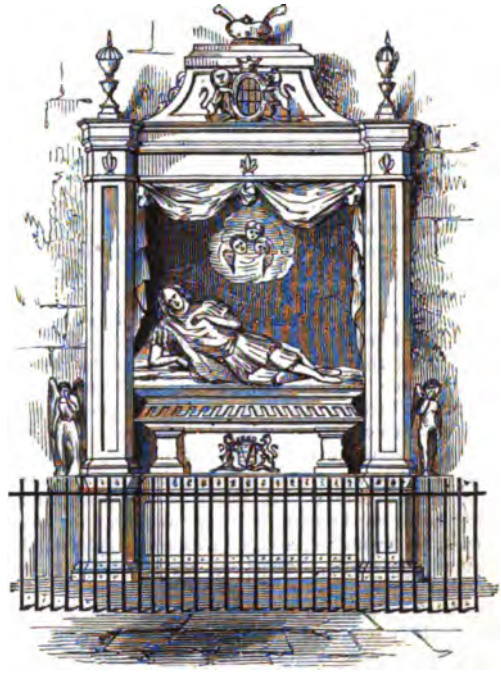
Brechin, Feb. 7. A. J.

HOLLES MONUMENT, ST. PETER'S, DORCHESTER.

After a highly successful appeal to the town of Dorchester, and the county of Dorset, in aid of a fund for the repairing and restoring the beautiful old church of St. Peter's, sufficient has been obtained for effecting the more immediate requirements, leaving contemplated improvements, works of ornament and minor importance, to be effected when further contributions could be afterwards collected. These repairs have been progressing for some months past; and amongst the exceptions, caused by the inadequacy of means, was the removal of the monument of Denzil, Baron Holles of Ifield, from the eastern window of the south aisle, to some other part of the church, in order to open that window, that had been completely blocked up by the monument. One of the gentlemen of the Committee having given orders for its removal, the monument has been taken down, and partly put up at the western end of the north aisle.

From the first I have been acting as one of the Honorary Secretaries to the Committee appointed for the effecting these repairs, and until the occurrence of this circumstance have been wholly in accord with the persons of that Committee, and their plans; but in this I unfortunately differ from the parties assuming the management, and consider this difference as being on a subject, beyond the mere question of ornament, and am therefore induced to this remonstrance, in the hope of drawing the attention of all lovers of antiquity and beauty to this monument, that a remedy may present itself for that which I consider to be, to say the least of i., a most unjustifiable proceeding.

The monument, which is fully described by Hutchins, in his History of Dorset, as "a very lofty, noble, and superb one, of white marble, railed with iron," had till recently the appearance as in the enclosed hasty sketch.



On the top, between two urns, an escutcheon encircled by the Garter, containing the arms of Holles, Duke of Newcastle.* Over all a ducal coronet, and on a cushion above it a ducal cap, motto—SPES AVDACES ADJVVAT. Under the curtain are three cherubim's heads, and below these, the effigies of Lord Holles, in a robe of loose drapery, and in a recumbent posture, his right elbow leaning upon a cushion. On the outside of the monument, the effigy on the right side, is that of a boy, and on the left, that of an angel mourning. Below the effigy, are the arms, supporters, and motto of Lord

* Denzil Lord Holles, by Dorothy Ashley, his first wife, had an only son, Francis, who succeeded his father in the barony. He died March 1, 1689-90, and was succeeded by his only son Denzil, the third Baron Holles, who died in his nineteenth year, in 1694, when that honour became extinct, and the estates devolved upon his heir-at-law, John Holles, fourth Earl of Clare, who having married Margaret, daughter and coheiress of Henry Cavendish, second Duke of Newcastle, deceased 1691; was on May 14, 1694, created Marquis of Clare, and third Duke of Newcastle. He caused the Holles Monument to be erected in St. Peter's Church, in 1699, and dying in 1711, s. p. m., his honours, notwithstanding the panoply of armorial glory displayed in this marble memorial, also became extinct.

Holles, with a baron's coronet. In a compartment on the base are two inscribed columns, that on the right in Latin, and that on the left in English.

The monument of such a man as Denzil Lord Holles, is, I think it will be admitted, of more than local interest; perhaps, indeed, I should not go too far, if I said of national interest. Lord Holles is known as a man noble and illustrious in descent. In the reign of King James the First he represented Dorchester in parliament; and married Dorothy, daughter and heiress of Sir Francis Ashley, of Dorchester. He was created a peer April 20, 1661, and was honoured by representing his sovereign at several foreign courts; was a faithful counsellor to his prince, a patriot to his country, and a Christian towards God. He died in the eighty-second year of his age, Feb. 17, 1679-80, and was buried in this church on April 10, 1680.* His wife was also buried here.

Now, of this monument, I confess, I with pain observe it is intended to re-erect it in part only! Will it be believed that it is contemplated to set aside the pillars, the top, the urns, the curtain, and the cherubims' heads, because the omission pleases the taste of several gentlemen who have decided thereon? On the contrary, I consider it of great importance that the whole should be re-erected, and not thus mutilated by way of "improvement." A difference of opinion might possibly occur on the score of "improvement," for *quot homines, tot sententiæ*, and, in my humble opinion, the omissions apparently decided on would anything but merit that name.

Another argument for its complete restoration is, that, I am credibly informed, there is a rent-charge of two guineas per annum, derivable from the estate known as Holles Froome, near Dorchester, formerly the property of Lord Holles, reserved and payable for the cleaning and maintaining of this fine monument.

One word on "the right" to mutilate monuments. It might as well be said that the parties are equally empowered to take from, or add, at their will and pleasure, to any monument in the church, according to their taste from time to time; unless it is contended, which it would be idle to do, that the lapse of time since its erection would give them that right. I trust, therefore, that the parties in authority, who have ordered the omissions, will, on consideration, agree with me that the monument ought to be reinstated, as originally designed and planned by the sculptor, who was surely the best judge of what was a becoming background for his own work; and that such an instance of bad taste may not mar the, in other respects, vast improvements to one of the finest and best-built churches of our county.

Dorchester, Feb. 11. JOHN GARLAND.

* The sermon preached at his funeral by the Rev. Samuel Rayner, then rector of St. Peter's, contains copious biographical details of Lord Holles. It was published by William Churchill, bookseller in Dorchester, in 1680, 4to., but is now of considerable rarity.

THE LAST OF THE COURT FOOLS?

Said Effendi, distinguished by the appellation of Mussahib, or Imperial Buffoon, who had served in that capacity four Sultans, and who notwithstanding his very advanced age, was frequently commanded into the presence of the present Sultan, to exercise his talent in smart sayings, and perform the antics of his office, which the venerable old gentleman generally did with remarkable agility, died at Constantinople on the 3rd instant, at the age of 121 years and seven months.

COMPENSATION OF MAGAZINE WRITERS.

A correspondent of the Aberdeen Journal states of his own knowledge, the following are the sums paid to writers, by the proprietors of the periodicals named.

We, ourselves, receive from Chambers's Journal, twenty-one shillings per page, and for the continuous Tales in the serial, a guinea and a half per page is paid; in a page of Chambers there are about 1373 words. In a page of the Leisure Hour, there are usually 1120 words, and for that number, the Religious Tract Society pays fifteen shillings. For a page containing about 1250 words, Eliza Cook used to pay us a guinea; and Charles Dickens, Household Words, still pays that sum for a page of not more than 1050 words. For the much smaller pages of Tait's, Sharpe's, Bentley's, and the new New Monthly, half a guinea each is paid; while for pages of about the same size, Blackwood, and the Dublin University, pay double that price. For reviews, the Athenæum pays half a guinea; while the Critic and the Literary Gazette, pay seven shillings per column. The Quarterlies pay their contributors at rates varying from eight to sixteen guineas per sheet of sixteen pages.

STALL BOOKS.—In the Cambridge list of Wranglers appears the name of — Tebay, B A., of St. John's College. He was formerly a labourer at Preston, but an old book purchased at a stall impelled him onward into mathematical studies, in which his ability becoming known to several gentlemen of that town, they sent him to College, where his present position renders them due honour.

VERSE VERSUS PROSE.—Her Majesty on the recommendation of Lord Palmerston has conferred on Mr. Samuel Lover, well known for his Irish Songs and Stories, an annual pension of 100*l.*; and has granted another of 50*l.*, chargeable upon the Irish civil list, to Mr. John Dalton, of Dublin, the author of several Irish historical works, including the Army List of King James the Second; the latter not yet completed.

The Fifth volume of Current Notes, with Index, in extra cloth boards, uniform with the prior volumes; may now be had, price THREE SHILLINGS.

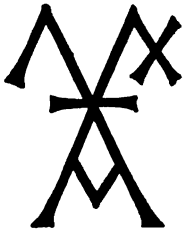
Subscribers are respectfully reminded that their subscriptions for the forthcoming twelve months which are now due, can be forwarded in Postage Stamps.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXIII.] "Takes note of what is done—
By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [MARCH, 1856.

EARLY MERCHANTS' MARKS.

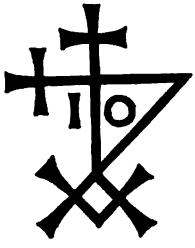
The following two examples of Merchants' marks are from rubbings of Sepulchral memorials in the London Churches.



Is from the Flemish brass of Andrew Evyngar and family 1536, in the Church of All-hallows, Barking. On this brass are two other shields, the dexter charged with the arms of the Merchant Adventurers Company, barry nebulé of six, *arg.* and *azure;* a chief quarterly *gules* and *or;* the first and fourth quarters, a lion passant-guardant of the fourth. On the second and third, two roses of the third, barbed *vert.* The sinister shield bears the arms of the Salters Company, per chevron *az.* and *gules,* three sprinkling salts *argent.*

The inscription in old English raised characters; the words within brackets being erased.

[Off your charite pray for the sowls] of Andrew Evyngar cytezē and salter of London; and Ellyn hys [wyff on whoos soulys ihesu haue m'cy amē.]



In the church of St. Olave, Hart Street, on a mural brass, the device marked on the representation of a bale of wool; with the following inscription.

John Orgone and Ellyne his wife.
As I was so be ye.
As I am, you shall be.
That I gaue that I haue.
That I spent, that I had.
Thus I end all my coste
That I leffte, that I loste, 1584.

Lee Road, Blackheath, March 8. J. J. H.

TOMB OF HOMER.—The Sieur de Grun, a Dutchman in the Russian service, employed in searching for antiquities in the islands of the Archipelago, wrote to a friend early in 1772, that he had discovered in that of Nio, the tomb of Homer, who was always supposed to have died there. That he found a Greek inscription on the sepulchre which contained the skeleton of that poet, the most celebrated of all antiquity, but that it immediately crumbled to dust on being exposed to the air. He had also made many other discoveries of tombs and coins in the islands of Naxio and Milo, as in that of Nio.

Wisbeach, March 7. M. S. F.

INEDITED LETTER OF SIR WALTER SCOTT.

I forward you another letter* addressed by Sir Walter Scott to "James Ellis, Esq., Otterbourne, by Hexham, Northumberland," perhaps not so interesting as the last, but still worth preserving. The volume, edited by Ellis, and dedicated to Scott, has the following title—

Poetry, Fugitive and Original, by the late Thomas Bedingfield, Esq., and Mr. George Pickering, with Notes and some Additional Pieces, by a Friend, [i.e. Ellis.] Collecta revirescent. Newcastle, 1815, 8vo.

Many kind thanks, my dear Sir, for Pickering and Bedingfield's poems, which I think greatly more valuable from being mingled with your own, which are completely fitted to rank with them, and you know they stand high in my estimation. I think you have made a very acceptable present to the literary world, and feel myself much flattered in standing godfather to the volume. It is executed in a manner creditable to the Newcastle press, and without errors, which is equally honourable to the editor and printer. The literary anecdotes are very interesting, and will be the means of preserving to posterity the memory of these two ingenious men, which must otherwise have perished with the generation in which they flourished. You were fortunate in the opportunity of knowing them, and they not less so, in being known to one whose kindred talents have enabled him to preserve their fame.

The Border Antiquities must be given up, for I don't think the publishers have taken the thing by the right

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* In reference to the letter printed in Current Notes, pp. 4-5, Mr. White, it appears to me, is under a mistake, Current Notes, p. 14, in supposing that Sir Walter made a slip respecting the lines on the North Tyne. The lines to which allusion is made are now before me, having been printed in 1850, by Mr. Fenwick, from the manuscript in Mr. Ellis's autograph. The tract is entitled—Dialogue between the North and South Tyne Rivers. This Dialogue is the joint production of the late Dr. Shepherd, Preacher at Gray's Inn, and the late Miss Davidson, who in 1817 had a friendly controversy on the respective merits, in point of beauty and association of the two streams.

As far as I know, the other poem, edited by Mr. Adamson, and entitled—The Marriage of the Coquet and the Alwine, is still anonymous. The Editor observes—the author of this poem is not positively known, but report attributes it to two different gentlemen, of whom each is equally well known in the county of Northumberland. The names of these two individuals I do not feel myself at liberty to mention here, as by assigning it to any one without certain information on the subject, I might, unintentionally, subtract from the merit of the real composer.

E. H. A.

handle, making the numbers far too large and miscellaneous. I have got a work for your acceptance—The Lord of the Isles—but I wait for the royal 8vo., which will appear in a fortnight.

I have just got from Mr. Bell the inaugural speeches at the opening of the Society of Antiquaries,* which shew much taste and spirit. I have thoughts of going south this spring; perhaps, if I do not come down by sea, a mode of travelling to which I am rather partial, I may have an opportunity of being present at a meeting. I have often thought that if Antiquarian Societies would bestow some expense and time in causing fair copies to be transcribed from curious old papers and records, they would render their associations of most material use to history. About fifty years ago, an old Scotch gentleman, the Laird of Macfarlane, who chanced to be a keen genealogist and antiquary, employed an amanuensis in making a collection of this kind. The volumes thus compiled were afterwards purchased by our Faculty of Advocates, and are in their fine library; and what points out the extreme value of such a collection, many of the originals from which they were copied have even in the comparative short space of time, fallen aside, or been destroyed; so that these copies are now the only source to which we can resort for the curious information which they contained. Perhaps, the Antiquarian Society of the North may be induced at one time or other to take the matter under consideration?

Sometime since, I wrote you a long letter, which I hope came safe to hand. Mrs. Scott sends her kind compliments to Mrs. Ellis. Our eldest boy, Walter,† whom you remember at Otterbourne, has had the small pox, or something very like it, and thereby made himself the town-talk, for he was in infancy both vaccinated and inoculated. He has now got them well over, but the alarm prevented me writing this letter. The circumstance of the small-pox, if such the disease be, reviving like one of Ariosto's Enchanted Champions after it was supposed fairly slain, is a little startling. But as vaccination was then only new, it is possible the boy may not have had the right kind, and that the subsequent inoculation may not have taken effect, which sometimes happens; or, the disorder may have been only a violent chicken-pox, and not the real variolous eruption.

Once more, my dear Sir, my grateful thanks and best wishes attend you, and

I am very much,
Your much obliged and faithful servant,
Edinb. January 19, 1815. WALTER SCOTT.

* Scott was elected an Honorary Member of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Society of Antiquaries on April 7, 1813; several unpublished letters of Scott's in reference to his joining this Society, and the Border Minstrelsy, in the Editor's possession, will appear in Current Notes.

† Scott's only son, born Oct. 28, 1801. He adopted the military profession, and was a Major in the 15th Hussars, when Sir Walter died Sept. 21, 1832, whom he succeeded in the Baronetcy. He became the Lieutenant-Colonel of his regiment, May 31, 1839, and served some years in India; on his return homeward he died at sea, off the Cape of Good Hope, Feb. 8, 1847. Dying without issue, the baronetcy became extinct.

SCOTT'S WAVERLEY NOVELS QUESTIONED.

In Notes and Queries, there appeared recently certain letters in which an attempt was made to discredit Sir Walter Scott's right to be considered Author of what are usually denominated, the Waverley Novels. This would be amusing enough were there not involved in it an imputation on the memory of the truly great and good man of the most serious description. In assuming Scott to be the author of Moredun, the concoctor of that eccentric and unequal production did not touch his moral character. People might say, and say with truth, that it was unworthy of his pen—but that was all: whereas, the story now told just comes to this, that Scott appropriated for his own benefit the works of others.

What is said? Why, that Thomas Scott wrote the whole or best part of the novels prior to Rob Roy; and that in particular he was the author of The Antiquary. What is the proof of this wondrous statement? An alleged letter in the *Quebec Herald*, of July, 1820. It has the date of December—but no year. It has neither signature nor address. The party who was the recipient is represented as dead; who sent it is not disclosed; and where it was found—whether in New York or Quebec—is concealed. In this precious production, Thomas Scott is made to declare that he was the author of The Antiquary. It is asserted that the writer had seen the original manuscript in full in Thomas Scott's hand-writing.

An anonymous communication of this sort affords no evidence whatever. A court of law would dismiss it at once, and common sense rejects it as worthless. Examine the matter, and see how the thing stands. Firstly, Was ever such a letter in existence, and if so, where is it now? Secondly, Who was the writer, and to whom was it addressed? Thirdly, What was the date—that is to say, the year in which it was written? Fourthly, Where is the alleged manuscript of The Antiquary in Thomas Scott's autograph? In the next place, assume that Thomas Scott made such a statement, was it done seriously or in jest—was it over his cups, or was any body else present? The paymaster, as Thomas Scott is styled, was a fellow of infinite humour—full of frolic and fun.

Like the late excellent Peter Robertson (Eheu! !) he could not resist a joke; and to mystify a Yankee—could there be a greater treat? Sir Walter, at the dinner at which the secret of his authorship was made public, desired Robertson to announce himself as the murderer of Begbie. Even very grave personages con-

descended to amuse themselves in this way. Thus Baron Hume, at a party where Scott was present, rose, to the astonishment of all, and said—Gentlemen, there has been a burden on my mind for many years, which I now will try to remove. You all have heard of the Great Unknown. I am he! The countenance of Scott, upon this occasion, was most amusing. Like a boy, he did not know, as my informant said, whether "to greet or to laugh;" and Hume said, it would be easily seen now who wrote Waverley.

Before leaving "The Antiquary," I may mention a circumstance connected with its publication, which might give rise to another claimant for its authorship. The late Lord Kennedder—then William Erskine—was frequently employed by the legal house where I was acquiring professional knowledge. Upon one occasion, a clerk called upon him late in the day with papers. Erskine was at dinner, and as there was something to communicate verbally, the young man was shewn into the office. Some time elapsed, and the youth getting weary, he looked about him, and beheld, to his astonishment, two or three sheets of the novel, then advertised for publication, corrected in the well-known hand of Erskine. Upon returning to the office, he mentioned what he had seen, and never doubted that 'The Antiquary' was the veritable production of the learned lawyer. Suppose, after the lapse of years, a letter had been found bearing date, signature, and address, detailing all this, would it not have been better evidence of Erskine's authorship than allegations, founded on an unsigned, undated, and unaddressed piece of paper, said to have turned up in America.

Sir Walter's title is sustained by the original manuscript being extant, bearing his corrections, and purchased in 1831 by Captain Basil Hall for forty-two pounds. What is the answer to this startling fact? Why, that Scott "thought nothing of transcribing even where no particular object was to be gained by doing so," and that when "he got books to review, he copied the extracts sooner than *cut* them out in the usual way." No doubt he did not *mutilate* books as some vandals do, because he was a true lover of literature—a *bibliomaniac* who had no compassion on those who tear out leaves and prints; but that for the purpose of imposture, he would sit down, re-copy a long manuscript, and apparently correct it, is a proposition too monstrous to be believed by any one in possession of his senses.

The original manuscripts of most of the novels in Scott's autograph are still extant. The manuscript of Waverley, not quite perfect, is by the donation of James Hall, Esq., in the Library of the Faculty of Advocates. The corrections are numerous, and some of the altered passages curious.

Another objection is, that it was not easy to "see how Sir Walter could possibly have written them (the novels) *in the time*," as in the year 1814 "he wrote the Lord of the Isles; the voluminous Life and *Works* of Swift, 19 volumes; Essays in an Encyclopædia; the curious Memorie of the Sommervilles, and Rowland's Letting off the Humours of Blood." No doubt the mere *transcribing* the Works of Swift would be a serious business. Surely the critic does not mean that Sir Walter really wrote the works of Jonathan Swift, D.D., or the Memorie of the Sommervilles, or "Rowland's Letting off the Humours of Blood." Although published in 1814, the notes upon the Life of Swift were the result of many years' previous research. A couple of hours would suffice for the preface to Rowland, and as many days for the short prefix to the Sommerville Memoir. As to his transcribing volume after volume, Sir Walter must have had very extraordinary fancies, if he indulged in such unnecessary labour. Copying Swift, however, is just as probable as re-transcribing 'The Antiquary.'

In conclusion, I may be allowed to mention that, to those who knew him, the mere declaration of Scott was sufficient. There never was a more truthful or worthy man. I never met with an individual so entirely free from those little, dirty jealousies usually so degrading in literary men. He envied no one—if he could aid a meritorious author, he invariably did so. He acknowledged at once the information he procured from his friends. The sources from whence he derived his stories are candidly disclosed. That his brother gave his assistance in the same way as Train and others did, we have from his own pen; but furnishing materials for a pudding is one thing, making it another.

I had the honour of being on pretty intimate terms with Sir Walter from 1817, until his last departure to the Continent. During the sitting of the Court of Session, a day rarely occurred without my conversing with him before the Division sat. I had every means of forming a correct opinion of his character; and I most conscientiously declare that I never knew a more kindhearted, upright, and generous being, or one on whose assertions I could more implicitly place confidence.

Edinburgh, March 8. JAMES MAIDMENT.

The monument on the Calton Hill, to Robert Burns, the Ayrshire bard, by a recent vote of the Edinburgh Town Council, the Lord Provost giving the casting vote; is to be moved to another point on the same eminence, that on its site Trinity College church may be re-erected. The church stood formerly in the valley spanned by the North Bridge, but was removed to make way for the railroad and station. Every stone was duly reserved, and the building is to be restored exactly as before, save that, instead of occupying a position in a vale, it will now be placed upon a hill.

The Museum at Carisbrooke Castle, of Isle of Wight antiquities, is now open to the public; it occupies three rooms in the castle, but has already been plundered of several rare and valuable coins. This could not have happened under an efficient keeper.

DERIVATION OF BUT AND BEN.

Many of the readers of Current Notes, must have been gratified by the interesting exposition of the origin and application of these words, by Mr. Brockie, of South Shields, in the January number.

To us Scotch who have been hearing 'Todlin but, Todlin ben,' both said and sung ever since the time we were able to 'todle our lane,' it seems strange that Mr. Brockie should have been obliged to draw the ground plan of a Scotch cottage, in order to make these words quite intelligible to our friends besouth the Tweed.

Though the origin of these words is correctly given by Mr. Brockie, yet the general reader will not perceive that but and ben are simply abbreviations for be-out and be-in, or by-out and by-in. To gang ben, is to go by-in, and to gang but, is to go by-out. Their Saxon equivalents were butan and binnan.

Mr. Brockie's concluding remarks are however fitted to mislead; our Saxon ben can have no affinity with the Latin *pen-us*, *penetral*, *penates*, etc. Whatever be the origin of that interesting group of words, they manifestly cannot be cognate with the word in question; and neither in meaning nor in origin can it possibly coincide with the Hebrew *peni-mah* (פְּנִימָה). The latter word corresponds exactly to the *enōpia* (ἐνωπια) of Homer, each being derived from a word meaning *face*, and each denoting strictly, the wall of a room or court *facing* the door.

The Scotch 'dresser' too (Fr. *dressoir*), must not be confounded with the old Scotch 'bink.' The former, but certainly not the latter, may be "stored with crockery of all sorts." Bink has been softened into the English "bench," and was quite synonymous with it in meaning.

Montrose Academy. S.

COINAGE OF EDWARD THE FIRST.

On examining my collection of early English coins for any varieties to Mr. Haswell's list, I find the following, which may be deserving of notice—

ЄDV REX ANGL' DNS HYB. m.m., a very small cross.
CIVI TAS LON DON m.m., as above.

ЄDW. R ANGL DNS HYB Star of five points on breast.
CIVI TAS CЄS TRIЄ

ЄDW R'. ANGL DNS HYB No star on breast.
VILL KYN GЄS TON

ЄDW- R .ANGL DNS hYB
CIVI TAS DVR ЄMЄ

The Є on obverse has three pellets punched on the three points.

ЄDW· R ANGL DNS HYB Quatrefoil on breast.
CIVI TAS ΘBO RACI

Norwich, March 5. GODDARD JOHNSON.

As Mr. Haswell of Nottingham, in Current Notes, p. 15, invites your readers to add to his list there given, I enclose some notices of a few not named by him.

LONDON.

1. ЄDW R' ANGL' IIN HYB
Rev, as no. 1. m.m., a cross. Varieties, and others under different towns, occur with the contraction after the R' only.

2. ЄDWA R ANGL DNS HYB m.m., a cross. [Edw. II. ?]
Rev., as no. 4. The letters are of a more perfect formation than hitherto.

3. As no. 1, Saxon A in the legend, and instead of a dotted circle around the bust, it is a plain thin line. Worn punches appear to have been used in the dies.

4. As no. 15, but on obv ANGL'

5. As no. 2, but the limb of cross on rev., following CIVITAS terminates in a spike.

In one specimen the N's have no perceptible middle line, thus, II; and on others the leaning to left or right seems quite arbitrary.

BERWICK.

6. As no. 21; but on obv., ЄDWA R etc. [Edw. II. ?]
On rev., a Roman E formed by I and three small wedge-like additions in front.

7. As no. 6, but large letters.

CANTERBURY.

8. As no. 31. Obv., ЄDWA R. [Edw. II. ?]

9. As no. 31; on rev., CAN COR.

DURHAM.

10. As no. 51. Rev., CIV ITAS DVN ЄNЄ
The T appears like an inverted L.

11. As no. 44; Obv., ЄDWA R [Edw. II. ?]

12. As no. 43; Obv., ЄDWA R [Edw. II. ?]
Rev., CIVI TAS DVN ЄLM The upper limb of cross on the left side forms a Crosier. This is said to be the distinctive mark of Bishop Kellow, who held that see, 1313-16; the obverse legend being an exception to the accredited style of Edward II.

ST. EDMUNDSBURY.

13. As no. 54. Obv., ЄDWA R [Edw. II. ?]

14. As no. 56.
Rev., VIL LAS ЄDLI VDI

KINGSTON-UPON-HULL.

15. As no. 68; no star on king's breast.
Rev., VIL' KYN GЄS TON

YORK.

16. As no. 81. Quatrefoil in centre of cross on reverse, having a pellet in centre.

DUBLIN.

17. As no. 92; on Obv., ANGL'.

WATERFORD.

18. As no. 98; on Obv., ANGL'.

CORK.

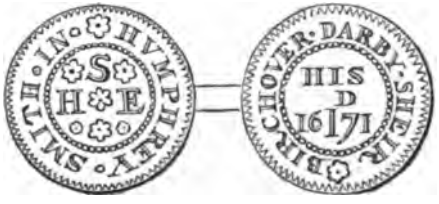
19. ЄDW R' ANGL'. DNS HIN'S

Edinb. March 8. W. F. M.

DERBYSHIRE TRADERS' TOKENS.

Anxiously busied in preparing for publication a detailed, and, so far as practicable, an illustrated descriptive list of the Tokens of the seventeenth century, issued by traders in the towns and villages in Derbyshire, I wish to avail myself of an intimation in Current Notes, that I am solicitous of any aid the collectors or possessors of such Tokens may be willing to render me, and shall be most happy in receiving their communications.

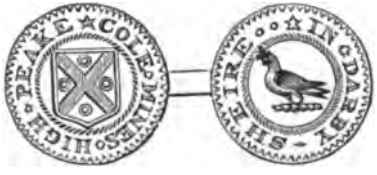
Some of the most interesting will be represented in woodcuts; of the manner in which these will be executed, I forward two blocks, in order that those by whose kindness I may be assisted, will be at once assured of the attention which will be paid to their contributions.



HVMPHREY. SMITH. IN.—In the field, H. E. S.

Rev., BIRCHOVER. DARBY-SHEIR.—HIS 1D 1671.

The other is of considerable rarity, and is figured in Snelling's View of the Copper Coinage, 1766, folio, pl. iv. fig. 2.



COLE-MINES. HIGH PEAKE.—Arms in field, Shalcrosse of Shalcrosse.

Rev., IN DARBY-SHEIRE.—Crest, Shalcrosse of Shalcrosse.

Already descriptions of Tokens of the following towns have been received, but the numbers appended to each place are considered as much below the aggregate of the pieces pertaining to Derbyshire: any aid therefore, if promptly tendered, will be gratefully acknowledged—

Alfreton	2	Chapel in le Frith	1	Higham	2
Ashburne	7	Crich	1	High Peak	1
Ashford	1	Derby	28	Repton	1
Bakewell	2	Dore	1	Stony Middleton	1
Belper	2	Dronfield	1	Stanton	1
Birchover	1	Duffield	2	Tideswell	5
Bolsover	3	Eckington	2	Winster	1
Bonsall	3	Hartington	1	Wirksworth	7
Brailsford	1	Hartshorne		Youlgrave	1
Brassington	1	Lea End	1		
Chesterfield	7				

The issuer of the Hartington Token was a THOMAS BATEMAN; of this I am particularly desirous of obtaining either the Token, or an impression in gutta-percha or wax, for the purpose of engraving.

Gateshead, March 5. W. H. BROCKETT.

WANDERINGS OF GENIUS.

When Ladies have raised for themselves a great reputation by their literary labours, it becomes very interesting to trace the different localities to which during their sojourn in this world, their souls have led their bodies. In this feeling I forward some notices of the wanderings of that talented spirit, Miss Jane Porter, authoress of Scottish Chiefs, Thaddeus of Warsaw, and other esteemed works. They are derived from her correspondence,* and such facts are useful in biography.

In 1799, she was at Grantham in Lincolnshire, probably staying with Mrs. Rawlinson. Part of the year she resided with her mother, in Gerard Street, Soho.

September, 1800, in Dover Street; in January, 1801, at Camberwell; in May, at Lochbay; and in August, at Grove House, Hampstead.

In August, 1802, at Grantham. In 1803, in Manchester Street, Manchester Square. Newport, in the Isle of Wight; and from August 25, to September 16, at Rochester.

At Bath, in February and March, 1804. During the months of October, November and December of that year, and till April, 1805, at Lasbury, near Alnwick, in Northumberland, the residence of the Rev. Percival Stockdale, also an author.

1806. In May at the Palace. At Child's Place. In 1807, in Park Street; and the Palace.

In 1808, Thames Ditton; and in January, in the following year, at Bath. In April, 1810, at Rochester; and May, 1811, at Oswald's near Canterbury.

In 1812, her home was at Thames Ditton; then at Esher. In May, 1813, in Cavendish Square; and in the following October, at Huntercombe. In 1814, at Ryde, in the Isle of Wight; and in July, 1815, at Brighton.

Early in 1816, at No. 5, Manchester Street, Manchester Square. In July, in Portswood Park; and in October, at Nursted House, Hants.; and later, at Sunning Hill, Berks.

In 1817, in Seymour Street; in 1818, in Upper Berkeley Street; in Oct. 1819, at Huntercombe; and in November, at Beddington in Surrey.

During the first three months of 1820, at Brighton; at Dover, in August; and in September, at Calais and Paris.

At Clifton, in August, 1821; and during May and

* Sir Robert Ker Porter, the distinguished painter and traveller, and his talented sisters, Jane and Anna Maria Porter, were cousins of the late Mr. John Adamson, the biographer of Camoens; among whose papers are very numerous letters. It is possible, a selection, with other correspondence of highly eminent literary characters, will be published by his son, the Rev. E. H. Adamson. ED.

June, 1822, at York Place. At Carisbrook, in September and October, 1823.

In June, 1824, at Ryde; and in August, at Tunbridge Wells. In 1825, at Long Ditton; and in Orchard Street In October, 1826, at the Priory near Wingham, Kent. At Ripon, in July, 1827; and in October, at Coughton, in Warwickshire.

At St. Petersburg, in July, 1828; and in October, at the Cottage at Long Ditton. In May, 1829, at Esher.

In May, 1834, at Bristol; in September, 1835, at Shirley; and later, at Coughton. In March, 1836, at Woolwich; and in 1839, at Coughton.

In July, 1840, at Esher; and in November, at Coughton. In March, 1841, at the Priory, near Acton, in Middlesex. In August, 1842, at Spencer Lodge, Wandsworth; and in October, at Brixton.

P.

QUERIES RESPECTING JOHN WESLEY.

I have had just pointed out a passage in Current Notes, November, 1854, p. 90, at which it is asserted that John Wesley "constantly carried in his breast a crucifix;" and moreover, that he 'pirated' certain portions of the productions of Dr. Young and Mrs. Rowe, for which he made restitution, by agreeing on Feb. 8, 1744, to pay fifty-pounds. My object is not to deny these allegations, but respectfully to ask for the authority upon which they are made? I mean of course, the *very* terms by B., and not a merely general reference to the memoranda of Dodsley, such appears in the leading paragraph of the article in which the above allegations appear.

H.

Samuel Wesley, the father of John Wesley, published in 1703, a tract on the Dissenters' Education in their Private Academies; this was printed in 4to., and occasioned a considerable controversy. The whole of the tracts so published, were collected by Sir Thomas Clutterbuck, and bound in a volume. His manuscript notes throughout evinced his intimate connection with the Wesley family; and in one of these notes, it was stated—John Wesley, though educated as a Divine of the Church of England, always carried a crucifix about him.

In December 1835, many original assignments of copyrights from various authors to the Dodsleys; the property of the late Mr. George Nicol, the bookseller, were dispersed by auction by Mr. R. H. Evans, in Pall Mall. The article in Current Notes entitled Literary Remuneration, was constituted of Notes made at that sale, from the original papers; a reference to the sale catalogue of that day, yet possessed by Mr. Evans, in Albany Street, Regent's Park, would show who was the purchaser of that agreement, and possibly where it is yet extant, but would fail in invalidating the fact of the piracy as stated in the article referred to by our correspondent. The agreement in question was signed by John Wesley and witnessed.

Mr. Herbert Ingram, proprietor of the Illustrated London News, was on the 7th inst. returned member for the town of Boston, his native place. The numbers were: Ingram, 521. Adams, 296. Majority, 225.

TREACHERY OF RUSSIA, FIFTY YEARS SINCE.

At this juncture, when a repetition of the aggressions of Russia upon the territories of Turkey has occasioned a war, the result of which has been greatly to the disadvantage of the former, the following extract from Hughes' Travels in Sicily, Greece, and Albania, 1820, Vol. II., pp. 180-181, will no doubt be perused with much interest; at the same time that it affords a clear and explicit notice of our celebrated naval expedition that, half a century since, sailed against Constantinople, the motives and conduct of which were then so erroneously considered and misrepresented.

Carlton Club, March 8. S.

Russia, in all her enterprises and political schemes, ever keeps her eye fixed upon the possessions of Turkey: she is also aware that she never can gain her point unless England be willing to assist or unable to oppose her. In the year 1806, that great northern power saw a favourable opening in affairs, of which she endeavoured eagerly to take advantage. Knowing that England was alarmed at the preponderating influence of Bonaparte, she entered into an alliance with her offensive and defensive, and then succeeded in forcing Turkey into a contest by demands which she never would have made had she not been sure of the assistance of her new ally. At the very commencement of this war a powerful Russian army took military possession of the important provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia, and the very existence of the Turkish Empire in Europe was threatened. It was not long before England saw the ultimate aim of Russia, but she could not refuse her co-operation without a risk of throwing Alexander into the arms of Bonaparte; accordingly Admiral Duckworth received orders to advance with his fleet against the Dardanelles. That officer sent a frigate to Corfu, with an intimation to Admiral Siniavin that he expected his contingent, which was supposed to consist of about six ships of the line; instead of this, however, the Russian Admiral immediately bent the sails of nearly thirty, which, when our resident on that island observed, he instantly dispatched a confidential messenger overland, in the disguise of a Turkish dervish, to inform the British Admiral of the fact, who, upon this intelligence, made all possible expedition, whilst his Russian ally delayed his course at the isles of Hydra, Spezie, and Poros, to procure additional vessels, and to man his own. Admiral Siniavin was quite astounded when he met our fleet at the mouth of the Dardanelles, on its return from Constantinople, against which it had not fired a shot. By this circumstance, whether it may be styled a lucky incident or a masterly manœuvre, the Turkish capital was saved from that destruction to which it had been devoted by the cabinet of St. Petersburgh. Had the Russians been once permitted to anchor before Constantinople, an immense force was prepared in the Black Sea to co-operate from that quarter, and the armies on the Moldavian and Wallachian frontier were ready to pour down upon their prey. At no time before was the Crescent ever in such danger, and it may be long ere Russia shall again be able to drive her adversary so far into the toils.

The treaty of Tilsit took place soon after these events.

The pension of 25*l.* per annum, granted to the late JOSEPH HAYDN, previously to his death, has been continued to his widow.

MEISTER VON LIESBORN. Who is the painter of the pictures in the National Gallery, described in the Catalogue as Meister von Liesborn? There are several of these and very beautiful; but they are quite unnoticed in Waagen's Art Treasures, nor does he notice the works of any painter by this name in the various collections he describes. Any information, therefore, on this head would greatly oblige.

Bratton, March 4. E. B.

The appellation of the Master of Liesborn, is given by German writers to designate an unknown painter, the accredited founder of the Westphalian school; who painted the altar-piece in the Benedictine Abbey of Liesborn, near Münster, consecrated in 1465. On Napoleon's constituting the kingdom of Westphalia in 1807, the monks were dispersed, and the altar-piece then sold; the purchaser appears to have formed smaller pictures from portions; and some of these pieces were obtained by Herr Krüger of Minden, whose collection by Mr. Dyce's strong recommendation was purchased in 1854, by the government, for 2000*l.* The several pictures, noticed by our Correspondent, are but portions of the altar-piece, and their present attractive appearance is attributable to the restorative skill of Mr. Bentley. Of the Krüger pictures upwards of forty, or more than half the collection, are worthless, and consequently unfit for exhibition.

VENETIAN TRIUMPHAL COMMEMORATION.

In a letter, dated Venice, March 10, 1764, are the following particulars:—

On the 4th of this month, the Doge and Senators repaired to the balcony of the ducal Palace in the square of St. Mark; which place was crowded with spectators, most of them masked; and there was performed the usual ceremony of striking off the heads of three bulls at one blow. After this operation, a man, mounted on a kind of dragon, rose from the sea, and flew along a rope to the gallery of the Tower of St. Mark, throwing sonnets among the people as he passed. From thence he made a rapid progress, by means of another rope, to the balcony of the Doge, to whom he presented a nosegay and some verses: he afterwards mounted by the same rope to the cupola, and then returned to the sea. The two factions of the Castellans and Nicolottes afterwards amused the people with feats of equilibrity and morrice-dancing, etc. This festival, which always terminates with a firework, is celebrated in remembrance of a great Victory formerly gained by the Venetians over the Patriarch of Aquileia. It was to have been, according to custom, the 1st of this Month, but it was put off on account of the bad weather.

NEWSPAPER STAMPS. The Chancellor of the Exchequer lately stated in the House of Commons there had been a loss to the revenue of 220,000*l.*, in consequence of the abolition of the newspaper stamps. The return made on the 3rd inst. of the aggregate number of penny Newspaper stamps issued from July 1, to Dec. 31, 1855, shews an immense falling off. The numbers thus reduced were England, 15,498,094; Wales, 193,680; Scotland, 2,680,122; Ireland, 3,274,612; total 21,646,688.

A gold coin of Vespasian, of the year 70, memorable for the subversion of Judea, by the Romans under Titus; was found on the 25th ult., in a garden at Inveresk, seven miles from Edinburgh.

IMP. CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG. Head laureated.

Rev., COS ITER. TR. P. Seated figure, in right hand a branch; in her left hand a caduceus.

HARES AT EASTER. Blount observes, They have an ancient custom at Coleshill, in Warwickshire, that if the young men of the town can catch a hare, and bring it to the parson of the parish before ten of the clock on Easter Monday, the parson is bound to give them a calf's head, and a hundred of eggs for their breakfast, and a groat in money. Can any antiquarian reader of Current Notes point out to what is the origin of this singular custom?

Warwick, March 5. F. T. M.

BELFRY RHYMES. The following lines are in Gulval Church, Cornwall. The frames of the Bells bear date 1600.

Good Sirs! our meaning is not small,
That God to Praise assemblies call;
And warn the sluggard, when at home
That he may with devotion come
Unto the Church and joyn in prayer;
Of Absolution take his share.
Who hears the bells, appears betime,
And in his seat against we chime.
Therefore I'd have you not to vapour,
Nor blame ye Lads that use the Clapper
By which are scar'd the fiends of hell,
And all by virtue of a Bell.

Penzance, March 6. W.

MINE HOST OF THE BLUE BOAR.

The following instance of longevity may possibly be deemed worthy recording in the pages of Current Notes. Mr. Joseph Howes, remembered by many here as formerly mine host of the Blue Boar and Wellington Castle Inns, lived to be the oldest inhabitant in Leicester, but more recently resided at Evington Lodge, near this town, highly respected by a large circle of friends. He died in December, 1853, aged 102.

Leicester, March 8. WILLIAM KELLY.

King Richard the Third, the last of the Plantagenets slept at the Blue Boar Inn, on the night of August 21, 1485, the night preceding the memorable conflict at Bosworth Field. It would seem, however, this was not the principal inn in the town; in Mr. Kelly's admirable historical papers on Royal Progresses to Leicester, he notices many interesting events as transpiring at the Angel, an inn situated between Cheapside and Gallowtree-gate, long ranking as the head hostelry, where for centuries upon the same site a long succession of noble and princely guests on occasions feasted or reposed. It was demolished at the close of 1854, and "finally disappeared from among us, even in name."

MIDDLESEX ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

On the 26th ult., the London and Middlesex Archæological Society held their second evening meeting in Mr. Gambart's French Gallery, No. 121, Pall Mall. The meeting was numerously attended, and the papers read were of considerable interest. The Society, from the already printed long list of names of Members of wealth, position and worth, men of probity and talent in their several pursuits, will from the constant accession of applications and elections soon be a Legion, and outnumber several existing institutions. One thing that greatly added to the refinements of the assembly, was the unusually large number of ladies, who were introduced by the members; these appeared in the evening costume of the better class of society, and their elegance and gayness of colours refreshened the sombre, quiet and unobtrusive garb of Antiquaries, Architects, Clergy, and men of Science. After the reading of the papers was concluded, an entertainment to the ladies followed, and the evening seemed passed in full enjoyment by every one present.

Some sober calculators mooted among themselves how this entertainment was provided? because the annual contribution of Ten shillings, by each member, is not likely in the present undefined position of the Society, to go far in this matter; the Society are yet without any certified or established place of meeting; nor is it clearly understood whether the papers and communications of the Members are to be printed or not. Let these questions be determined, and many more adherents will be found. The introduction of ladies by the members will unquestionably add much to the popularity of these meetings, and conduce greatly to the appearance and elegance of the purposes of the Society; but then, some consideration must be shewn to the lady visitors, by the adding or appending translations of quotations by the learned readers of papers. The reverend author of a paper on the early British History before the landing of Julius Cæsar, finished the rounding of many of his paragraphs by quoting the language of the monkish writers, and reciting in their Latin, the facts as he found them related by the historians long ages since numbered with the dead. These passages were beyond construing by the novel or story-reading of some of the gaily-dressed evening associates of the members of this Society, and several were observed, to bow their heads and smile to one another, at the recital of so much heathen Greek to them. To be understood by all, translations must follow, or many will leave the assembly as wise as they came, or at best only half informed.

EPITAPH ON A PHYSICIAN.

Hâc sub humo, per quem tot jacuêre, jacet.
Which may be thus translated—

A grave for him is here provided,
Thro' whom so many of us lie dead.

EULOGIUM ON ENGLISH VALOUR.

The following lines are from England, a Poem, by R. White, Esq., of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, recently printed in that town for distribution among the Author's friends:

Full throbs mine ardent breast to learn,
That in each sea throughout the world,
Surrounding nations may discern
Aloft thy naval flag unfurl'd.
So while above the ocean wide
Thou dost maintain supreme command,
Thy meanest son has cause of pride
That he was born in such a land!

Thy blood within thy people's veins
Their ancient warlike lineage shows,
Which all its former force retains,
And with renewing freshness flows;
Brave is the tide as when of old
It urged to flight the arrowy show'r
That with effect so deadly told
At Cressy and at Agincourt.

The battles which at sea were won
With Nelson, let our annals tell;
And those on land with Wellington
Re-echo to thy praise as well.
On Alma's heights who led the van?
Or nobler still, what battle field
May vie with that of Inkerman,
Where British valour last was seal'd?

Thy dauntless sons this spirit nerves
All rude aggression to withstand,
And hence thy name their zeal preserves
Inviolate on sea or land.
Thy standard floats triumphantly
O'er climes that earliest hail the light;
And regions homage pay to thee
Where latest fall the shades of night.

LAFROWDA. What is the meaning of this ancient appellation of St. Just, in Cornwall? When was the alteration in the names made, and are there any other instances of similar changes in this county? W.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The articles, Prince Charles's Passage through Leicester, 1604; Oxfordshire Historical Memoranda; the Corbel in Brechin Cathedral; and Memoir of the late Dr. W. H. Scott, of Edinburgh, will appear in our next number.

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WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXIV.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [APRIL, 1856.

PRINCE CHARLES'S SOJOURN AT LEICESTER.

In 1604, Charles, Duke of York, subsequently the unfortunate King Charles the First; then a puny unhealthy child of four years of age, was brought to London from Scotland in the care of Lord Fyvie, afterwards Earl of Dunfermline. On his way hither, he passed through Leicester, and the borough manuscripts record the following notices of his entertainment by the town authorities.

The first is a letter addressed to the Right Worshipful the Mayor, or in his absence to the Aldermen of the same.

Sr.—I ame to advertis you that on Wednesday the xvth of this instant, Duke Charles, the King's Mats. second sonne, wth my Lo: of ffyvie, Lo: Prsedent of the Sessions in Skottland, who hath charge of his Grace, entendeth to bee at Lecester, whear thaye mean to rest Thursday all day, and on Friday after dinner to goe forwards on their jornye, ffor wch cause theise are in his Mats. name to require you to make choyce of a sufficient house for the lodgine of the Dukes Grace wth the Lo: Prsedent, whear ther must be xij bedds, with all nessicaries for a kytchine, and yt their bee iij hogsheads of beare layed in the same house, for the wch you shall have satisfaction; for pewter and lininge, [linen] his Grace must bee furnished wth from you; before his cominge their shalbee one sent for the makinge of p'vision, vnto whom I would, if hee find it nedfull, he maye have your assistance. Thus, not doutinge of yor care herein, I byd you hartelie fare well,

Yor lovinge ffrend,

JOHN CRANE.

ffrom Worsop, the ix of August, 1604.

The Mayor immediately despatched a messenger to Sir William Skipwith, to procure the use of his town mansion for the Prince and his train, which being obtained, in accordance with long customary arrangements, the walls of the rooms were decorated with green boughs, and the floors strewed with rushes and green leaves, for perfume and coolness during the warm weather. Pewter and linen were borrowed, and bedding and furniture were moved to Sir Thomas Skipwith's house, from the Recorder's chamber at the Town-Hall.

The Prince arrived on Wednesday the 15th, and during his stay, the Corporation presented to him and his retinue a banquet, or as we should now term it a dessert, with several gallons of sack and other wines and a sugar-loaf. Rhenish and claret wine was presented to Mr. Grimes, who had the charge of the king's horses, and twenty shillings were given to the King's trumpeters. The Prince remained until after dinner on Friday, and then departed for Dingley.

As on former occasions the attendants on royalty evinced the disposition to make the most of their opportunity, without respect to the rights of property, for these manuscripts record that after their departure the Corporation had to pay "for certain Flanders fruit dishes, which with divers sorts of banquetting dishes were sent to the Duke, but of which fruit dishes some of them were broken,* and the rest carried away by the Duke's officers and followers." A portion of the pewter and linen that had been borrowed for the Duke's use was also abstracted by the royal attendants, of whom Scott, (Fortunes of Nigel,) quoting from the proclamations of the period, terms them "a beggarly rabble," and "an importunate crowd of disrespectful suitors." Some one with singular audacity actually stole one of the bolsters belonging to the Recorder's bed!

Leicester, April 9. WILLIAM KELLY.

* To many persons this extract from the borough records will afford much to interest them. The garniture for the bouffet and the table in England, was at this period, for the most part silver and pewter; gold and glass rarely, and both more for ornament than use. The richly embossed cream coloured ware, dishes and plates, with perforated borders, erroneously termed by most dealers, "Elizabethan ware," have no reference to that period; the English made pottery of that time, being black earthenware pots, in general use at ale houses, and commonly in domestic use—the red earthen pots, with a partial green glaze are ascribed to an earlier date. Oriental porcelain was then rarely to be found even on the tables of royalty—the deficiency was made up by importations from the continent, and the coarse stone bottle ware of Cologne; with the coarsely glazed dishes of Flanders, now more generally designated Delft ware, were brought into requisition, hence the appellation before made of "Flanders fruit dishes." By others, whose discernment has shown them the embossed ware is really not so early as the time of Elizabeth; it is asserted that they were manufactured at Stratford-le-Bow, in the reign of Anne, and hence obtained the distinction of "Queen's ware." This assertion is, however, as vague as the former, they are from the Staffordshire potteries, some of it, early in the last century; and the characteristics of the earlier fabric will be perceptible by the dark coarse colour of the clay. It was not till the aspiring energy of Josiah Wedgwood, so far improved the fineness and colour of this cream coloured manufacture that soon after her marriage he obtained the patronage of Queen Charlotte, when in compliment to her he named it "Queen's ware," and multiplied an infinity of articles in pottery of all denominations, forms and sizes, for the most part impressed with his name.—ED.

OXFORDSHIRE HISTORICAL MEMORANDA.

A correspondent (G. H. Barnett, Esq.) having kindly forwarded some original papers pertaining to the manor of Glympton, for selection of memoranda for "Current Notes," the following extracts have been considered as affording some interest.

The first, an autograph letter of Sir John Sedley, Knt. and Bart., sheriff of Kent, 1621. He married Elizabeth, only daughter and at length heir of Sir Henry Savile, Knt., Provost of Eton College. The letter addressed to Mr. Wheat, relates to the Sedley property in Glympton, and to an annuity on Mrs. Pollard's life, the particulars of which Sir John Lentall knoweth punctually. He adds—

Your seruaunt can giue you some notice of my howse att Aylesford* which is the only commodyous seate in England; and I am very willinge to sell itt: if a wiseman, whoe is not very auaritious vew it: I knowe he will have it. Thus commendinge my best respects vnto you, I rest your very louinge frende, JOHN SEDLEY.

This 14 Nou: Anno doi. 1633.

Charles the First, in May, 1634, issued writs to the ports and maritime counties, for the providing a fleet for maintaining the sovereignty of the Narrow Seas. This affair of the ship-money was the commencement of the King's troubles; and the writs, in 1635, were enlarged and extended to the inland as well as the maritime counties. These created a general disgust, and were everywhere opposed, although the entire sum purposed to be levied by these writs amounted but to 236,000*l.* The following is the substance of the paper addressed to the Sheriff of Oxford:

Instructions from the Privy Council to the High Sheriff of Oxford, dated from Whitehall ye 12th of August, 1635; requiring him, the Mayor, and Head officers of the Corporate Towns in Oxfordshire to assess themselves for the raising of 3500*l.*, the charges for providing a ship of 350 tons, to be furnished with men, munitions, tackle, victual, and other requisites to be set forth for the safeguard of the Seas and the defence of the Realme, at the charges of the said County. The Privy Council suggested the assessments to be thus—the Cytie of Oxford may well beare one hundred pounds; Henley, sixtie pounds; Banburie, fortie pounds; Chippinge Norton, thirtie pounds; Burford, fortie pounds; Woodstocke, twentie pounds, and the residue to be assessed upon the rest of the County, according to their judgment.

The following relates to the mischiefs caused by the conflicting powers of commanders among the Royalists.

Diuers complaints have been this day made, amongst others one by Mr. Wheat of this county, that the carts bringing in provisions of corne and other victualls for the mayntenance of the Garrison here, at Oxford, are taken for other imployments, contrary to the King's express agreement and proclamation. The cart-takers and others who it concerneth, are desired to take this into their consideration, and what preiudice this may bring to the King's most importune service at this time and in this place.

April 17, 1644. RO. HEATH.

The signature is that of Sir Robert Heath, Chief Justice, K.B., then attending upon the King. He died in 1649.

As might be supposed, the provisions and forage for the army would greatly impoverish the county, so, in the following paper, the parishes of Glympton and Kiddington declare their inability to comply with the requisition made on them.

To ye Chiefe Comander of his Maties Forces at Godstow.

Whereas we haue receiued a Warrant this present Monday from the High Constable of Wootton Hundred; These are to lett you vnderstand that since the 28th of May last we have been so ouerburdened with his Maties forces of horse and dragoons vnder the Comand of Prince Maurice, the Lord Cleeueland, the Lord Wayntworth; and last the Lord Wilmott and the Lord Wayntworth, our charges being so great for theyr entertainment, that we are vtterly disabled to prouide Sustenance for our poore families, except we may haue reliefe from some neighbouring towns which haue not quartered att this time; besides our store of wheate and mault, which shaulde haue kepte our houses till haruest, they have spent and wasted vpon theyr horses and carried away: and imediately vpon theyr departure came the parliament forces who swept the remainder. Wherefore, We do most earnestly request that we may be freed and excused from the Charge imposed upon vs by this Warrant, and so soone as God shall enable vs, we shalbe ready and willing to do the best we can for the supplieing of his maties souldiers.

A receipt, dated June 5, 1657, acknowledges twenty shillings having been paid by William Wheate, Esq. for a license for retailing wines in the parish of Glympton, in the Hundred of Woodstock. The rent for this license was for the half year ending Dec. 25, 1656. The yearly license was charged at forty shillings, receiveable by the agents for granting wine licenses, for the use of his Highness and the Common Wealth.

Tobacco during the time of the Commonwealth was, under a certain penalty, allowed to be grown in England, but at length was interdicted; the prohibition continued after the restoration, but the mandates against

* The Sedley family were seated at Aylesford, in Kent. Sir William Sedley, of the Friars in Aylesford, Knt., was created a baronet, May 22, 1611. He purchased from Sir John Gerrard, Knt., Lord Mayor of London, 1601, the manor of Southfleet; hence his son, Sir John, on inheriting both houses, was desirous of disposing of the latter. He was, however, unsuccessful, as Sir Charles Sedley, his son, was born at Aylesford in 1639. He married Catharine, daughter of John Earl Rivers, and from this marriage was an only daughter, Catharine, who became the mistress of King James the Second, eternised in Dr. Johnson's maledictory line—

And Sedley cursed the form that pleased a King.

Sir Charles Sedley, the dramatist and wit, died August 20, 1701, when the title of Aylesford and Southfleet became extinct.

Sir John Sidley, or Sedley, died August 13, 1638, probably at Southfleet. The baptismal register at Aylesford dates only from 1653.

its culture appear to have fulminated with but little effect, and the following Order from the Privy Council, addressed To our very loveing ffreind ye High Sheriffe of ye County of Oxford; will possibly be perused with some interest.

After our hearty Comendacōns, His Matie being wearied with continuated Complaints, That notwithstanding the frequent Directions and Comands of this Board from time to time (amongst others) to the Sheriffe of the County of Oxford requiring their care and industry in the destroying all the Plantacōns of Tobacco in their respective Counties (which are soe strictly grounded upon the Act of Parliament, prohibiting the Planting, setting or sowing of Tobacco in England, and his Maties proclamations) yet by renewed Informacōns, cannot but observe his Clemency abused, and the stubbourne Spirits of non-Conformists improved, And that contrary to his Royal Comands they continue in digging up new grounds, and the people resolved to persist in their disobedience of planting this yeare; which upon deliberate Consultacōn evidently appeares will tend to the great prejudice of his Maties fforraigne plantations and customes, and hindrance of the Navigation of this Kingdome. Of which insolence and contempt his Matie is very sensible; And therefore hath Comanded us to will and require you the now Sheriffe of the County of Oxford, That forthwith without any manner of Connivance or favour to any person whatsoever, you cause all such Tobacco soe planted, sett, sowen, curing or cured, within the said County of Oxford to be burnt, plucked up, and utterly destroyed, according as by the said Act, his Maties proclamation, and our former Letters is enioyned; And we doe also require and authorize you, and hereby Comand you to be ayding and assisting to Clement Dowle, Esq., Collector of his Maties Customes in the port of Gloucester, and to such other person or persons as hee shall thinke fitt to imploy in the destroying of such Tobacco in that County, according to the tenor of our Comission to him given in that behalfe, And so not doubting of your more than ordinary Care herein, Wee bid you farewell.

From the Court at Whitehall the 20th of June 1666.

Your very loving ffriends,

Ossory	Manchester	Bathe
Carlisle	Arlington	Craven
Middleton	Fitzharding	H. London
G. Carteret	Will. Morice	Jo. Berkeley
W. Coventrye		Richard Browne.

This interesting autograph document has also a perfect impression of the Sigill. Privi Con: the seal was engraved by Thomas Simon, whose memorable Petition Crown, will ever perpetuate his name.

Sir Richard Browne, Clerk of the Privy Council, was the father-in-law of John Evelyn.

CHARLES THE FIRST AT CARISBROOKE CASTLE.

Some years since I sketched the window within the ruins of Carisbrooke Castle, from which the King in 1648, vainly attempted to escape; and forward it as an illustration, with some references to contemporaries respecting that event.

Sir Thomas Herbert simply mentions that the King, from some aggravations, designed an escape, horses being provided near the castle, and a vessel made ready for his transportation, but by a corrupted corporal in the garrison took not effect.* Ashburnham appears to have suggested the King's escapement, if he would engage some person to assist him out of the castle to the waterside, where a boat would be ready to receive him; with horses at Netley Park, to convey him to the place, where a ship was provided to carry him off.† Ashburnham states the fact, that the King, by putting his head forward, instead of sideway, through the bars of the win-

dow (shewn in the vignette), mistook the way of measure, according to the rule, that where the head can pass the body may; by which error, when he attempted to pass, he stuck fast; and being in great extremity, he, with long and painful struggles, got back again without notice by any man, but him who waited to attend him, had he, by means of the window, lowered himself down. Clarendon, in his manuscripts, has two relations, one in accordance with the preceding, which was suppressed in all editions of his "History of the Rebellion," prior to 1826; the other is a totally different version; that the King had a file and a saw to enlarge the aperture for his escape, which he laboured to effect; but on resolving to go forth, discovered more persons than he suspected were privy to his purpose, and so shut the window and retired to his apartment. Clarendon here affecting to treat the King's being "stuck fast" in the window as a mere fiction ‡

Among the letters between Colonel Hammond and the Committee at Derby House, one dated April 6, 1648, refers particularly to the King's attempt about a fortnight before, and that his 'breast was so big the bar would not give him passage;' and that aqua fortis had been sent from London to assist the King in moving a bar as an obstacle. Another letter, dated April 15, de-

* Memoirs, edit. 1815, 8vo. p. 115.

† Narrative, vol. ii. pp. 124-126.

‡ Hist. of the Rebellion. Oxford, 1704, fol. vol. iii. p. 179.

tails the King's purposes with the aqua fortis; but by another, dated April 22, it is stated the aqua fortis had been spilled by the way, by accident, but that a saw, for the royal use, had been taken from a plain fat man about four o'clock on the preceding day. The time assigned for the King's escape was May-day at night, but sooner if opportunity served.

Charles remained at Carisbrooke till December the first, in that year, when, by order of the army under Fairfax, he was taken to Hurst Castle, in Hampshire.

Penzance, April 10. HENRY WILLIAMS.

THE LATE W. H. SCOTT, M.D., EDINBURGH.

Numismatic Science and its followers have sustained an irreparable loss in the late William Henry Scott, M.D., who died at Edinburgh, much lamented, on the fourth of October last, in his twenty-fourth year. It is difficult to imagine, how it was possible, in so short a life, to acquire so varied an amount of knowledge, as Dr. Scott possessed; but his mind from his earliest years was directed to historical and philological researches, which his never failing memory enabled him, whenever it was required, to embody and utilize with undeviating accuracy. His earliest perception of the use of Coins in verifying history, and tracing the progress of society, was perseveringly followed amid all the delays and interruptions of impaired health and a toilsome course of education, to which a sense of duty alone induced him to adhere; but when free to exercise his great acquirements, he combined them with surprising adroitness in furtherance of a design, to which he had proposed to devote his life had Providence permitted it, by granting him time, but of this, he always spoke doubtfully, and with exemplary resignation.

Having decyphered thirty or more languages, with no other aid, than that derived from books, which he had collected with much acumen and sagacity; his purpose was to compare all the alphabets of ancient and modern times, and as far as possible, the languages, the remains of numismatic art and other records, with the general history of the world as deduced from a widely extended course of inferential reasoning based on known facts; nor is there any cause to doubt, that from his rapid powers of calculation and combination, he would have fully accomplished his self imposed task. Much of the partly arranged material remains, though frequently retarded by enervating sickness, but the master spirit that had conceived the glorious plan is no longer a dweller on the earth.

A member of the Royal Asiatic Society of France, and of other learned societies abroad and at home, he maintained an interesting and instructive correspondence with *savans* of many countries, most of whom were personally unknown to him, but whose invariable kindness made him feel a sincere confidence in their association and friendship; among these his unseen and kind correspondents in Ireland, Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Sainthill were ever near his heart. One thing may fairly be said in his praise, when he received continental letters from persons usually considered as competent authorities, consulting him on abstruse points in oriental language or history, his diffidence was manifest, and his hesitation unequivocal; he was wanting in the presumption to direct or inform men so much older than himself; these were with him difficulties, not easily overcome, while on all occasions, the results of his erudition were, when asked for, freely at the service of his friends, and invariably advanced by him in the gentlest and kindest manner—qualities which never failed him, even in any of the more depressing vicissitudes of health.

As a Numismatist, Dr. Scott's character will be better understood, by the following encomium from his valued friend, Mr. Lindsay, so well known to the numismatic world.

"To exhibit a proper estimate of the acquisitions and powers of my lamented friend in the definement of either science, Numismatology, or Archæology, would require far greater abilities than I possess, and a far more extensive acquaintance with the subjects so ably discussed by him. In the several branches of numismatic lore which relate to the British Islands, or to the continent of Europe, we have many eminent writers, sufficiently able and conversant to describe the coinages of their respective countries; and to appreciate the researches of their brother numismatists; but Dr. Scott had this singular merit, not only was he intimately acquainted with these ordinary facts; but he aimed at far more important objects, and his general success was such as to excite the admiration and approval of those who had themselves laboured in the embarrassments attending researches into the ancient coinages of Central Asia.

A wide field for the students of archæology has been presented in little more than twenty years by the labours and observations of Colonel Tod, Dr. Honigberger, Sir Alexander Burnes, Mr. Masson, and the French generals Allard and Ventura, in the northern provinces of India; and in the more western parts of Asia, by Messrs. Layard, Botta, Rich, Major Rawlinson, and others, but the majority of those persons being deficient in the knowledge or taste, constituting the indispensable requirements of a numismatist, their progress has been unsatisfactory and barren of results, yet, here it was, that the great talents of Dr. Scott, shone forth, and his zeal for his favourite study enabled him to take the lead, while his acquirements in the ancient and for the most part dead languages of Asia, withdrew as it were the veil that enshrouded the prospect we had so long and so ardently desired to explore; unhappily, notwithstanding what he had achieved, much remains to be elucidated and explained, and while grateful for the light with which the splendour of his researches has enriched us, his premature death leaves a hiatus which it is feared will long remain unsupplied.

I feel a degree of pleasure in directing the reader's attention to a slight abstract of what this highly talented writer has done for the advancement of numis-

matic science, and which a familiarity with his published papers, and an intimate correspondence of several years has brought before my immediate notice.

To the importance and number of his contributions the five last volumes of the Numismatic Chronicle, and the Continental periodicals devoted to similar pursuits bear ample testimony. In the fourteenth volume of the Numismatic Chronicle, is found :—

A descriptive catalogue of unpublished varieties of Greek, Colonial, Imperial and Roman Coins; replete with interest, and exhibiting in particular, several varieties of a rare class—the brass coins of the Kings of the Bosphorus.

In the fifteenth volume, two papers; one on African Regal coins, presenting much new and important information. The other, on the coins of Helena, the consort of the Emperor Julian, a paper of considerable interest.

In the later volumes, is a long and most masterly paper on the Coins of the Parthian Kings, affording much that is elucidatory on this interesting class of numismatic rarities.

An essay on a Colonial coin of Tyndaris in Sicily; and in the following number, an elaborate article on the Regal Coins of Mesopotamia. He has, in truth, been the first to treat successfully this portion of the early Asiatic coinage, and his premature decease has apparently arrested for some time at least, a satisfactory arrangement of this most important, but most difficult series.

His papers on the coins of Ceylon, and on a coin of Arsaces XXX., have severally their importance. He had also made considerable progress in classing and interpreting the legends on the coins of the Persian and other kings, tributary to the Parthians; a subject that may be said to have been scarcely attempted by any other writer. The subjects in Numismatology adopted by Dr. Scott, were for the most part those of which the Continental Numismatists have rarely availed themselves, few indeed have shown any ardour in the pursuit, and still fewer have achieved their enquiries successfully. The Bactrian, Indo-Scythian, Parthian, Sub-Parthian, and Sassanian coins, with some others of minor importance but equal difficulty, were all closely studied by him, and the discoveries he made gave ample promise that all these classes would eventually be by him most completely and satisfactorily elucidated.

In reference to his great knowledge of the earlier spoken but now dead languages of Asia, and their great utility in the illustration of the ancient coinage of that country, the preface to the second volume of Mr. Sainthill's Olla Podrida presents a corroborative fact. An inscription on certain Parthian coins had baffled all enquiry, on the part of the author of the Coinage of the Parthians, and the most distinguished oriental scholars had failed in rendering even the smallest scintilla of explanation—the work appeared, and in Mr. Sainthill's Olla Podrida, vol. II., pp. xxiii-xxv., will be found a letter from Dr. Scott, explaining most lucidly all that could be required; and so anxious was Mr. Sainthill to secure the credit of this interpretation to his friend, that the printing of the volume, then arrived at the conclusion, was delayed until the coins were engraved in illustration of Dr. Scott's reading.

Yet not solely to these numismatic enquiries were his erudition and inimitable qualities subservient; they comprehended almost every other department of archæology; and however unquestionably important his printed papers are, his extensive correspondence with the principal numismatists of Europe, must no doubt be far more so, and if collected would present a series of discoveries, and many ingenious and sound observations of the highest degree of importance, and judging from the assistance I have derived from his correspondence, while compiling some of the works I have published, and others, I am yet engaged with, I can fully estimate the irreparable loss which those busied in the numismatic and archæological science have yet to deplore."

A brother numismatist, and from infancy a fellow student with Dr. Scott, but now professionally employed in the East; on being apprised of his lamented friend's decease, wrote—"It is difficult as yet to realise fully the loss we have sustained. He was such an excellent man, so good a friend, and so wonderful a scholar. He was indeed one of those early lights whose very intensity precludes their burning long, and whom God has withdrawn to himself, as a guiding star of whom the world was scarce worthy. All his old friends and fellow students out here, are greatly grieved, as he was admired and beloved by all."

WEBER'S MANUSCRIPT OF OBERON.

It is stated, Baron Korff, the Director of the Imperial Library at St. Petersburg has made known, that the Manuscript of Oberon is in his keeping. It extends to two hundred and nineteen pages, text and notes together, and is wholly in Weber's autograph, and with a number of marginal memoranda, from which are derived the particulars, that the Opera was composed partly in Dresden, and partly in London, between 1825 and 1826; and that the overture was finished in London, April 9, 1826. Weber was then residing with Sir George Smart. What Baron Korff does not mention, is the important fact, that this original score was intended by Weber's widow and son to have been presented to her Majesty the Queen of England; but that the widow dying, the Staatsrath persuaded the surviving son to present it to the Emperor of Russia, after having it handsomely bound for that purpose, by holding out to him the expectation of a rich Imperial present in return. What the younger Weber really received was a few lines from Count Adlerberg, expressing the Emperor Nicholas's thanks for the present.

The late Mr. Hawes had Weber's original scores for Oberon in his possession, and he presented the writer with the first song in the second act, because it was complete on one sheet of paper.

WHAT HAS BEEN MAY BE AGAIN!

Upon the decease of Otho III., Emperor of Germany, Henry II. was elected his successor, and during his reign for twenty years, that is, from 1004 to 1024, the German clergy enriched and emboldened by the blind devotion to their interests of this bigoted monarch, began to assume an authority over the temporal affairs of the empire, paramount with his own; insomuch, that as their displeasure was dreaded by every prince in Germany, so also, was their friendship eagerly courted, and that influence in many respects predominated over the authoritative power of the Emperor. Memorably distinguished for this assumption of arrogance and audacity, was Meinwerk, bishop of Paderborn, of whom an historian of the eleventh century asserts—there was no meanness to which he did not descend in order to enrich his dioceses; and, whenever the Emperor refused to grant him what he demanded, he forcibly possessed himself of the object of his desires or requirement.

The Emperor being once on a visit to him, Meinwerk ordered all the ewes, then with young, which were to be found on his estates, to be killed, and a mantle made of the skins of the unborn lambs, which he placed on the shoulders of Henry, on his return from the bath. The Emperor, however, desired to have a better mantle, or one more fitting to his princely person; upon which, the bishop replied—I have stripped my poor bishopric, its clergy, and its farmers who derived their livelihood from their sheep, in order to clothe thee, and God will chastise thee, if thou do not make good the loss. The Emperor smiled, but shortly after bestowed upon him the valuable estate of Stein.

Henry, having once sent to the bishop for his inspection a costly vessel, Meinwerk caused it to be immediately melted, and the metal converted into a cup, which he consecrated on the altar. The Emperor having reproached him with the theft, the bishop answered, I have been guilty of no theft, but have piously consecrated to the service of God, that which was dedicated to feast thy avarice and pride, and if thou darest to take away this offering of my piety, thou wilt ensure thy own damnation.

Meinwerk, on another occasion, stole a costly robe out of the Emperor's chamber, and answered Henry's censure of that act by saying—It is fitter that this garment should be retained in the temple of God, than adorn thy mortal body: as for thy threats I despise them!

In something of the like spirit, the present head of the Church at Rome conducts his appropriations. Mazzini last month, forwarded fifty pounds to a friend in that city, but it was seized at the post office, and applied to the fund for raising a statue to the Immaculate Virgin!

Athenæum Club, April 2. F. S. A.

LAFROWDA. I observe the query, but cannot throw light upon it, though I gave much attention to it when I was at St. Just. G. C. GORHAM.

Brampford Speke Vicarage, April 5.

AUTHORSHIP OF THE WAVERLEY NOVELS.

The diffidence with which the opponents of the supposition that Sir Walter Scott was the author of the Waverley Novels have advanced their opinions, is both pleasing and natural, and there seems some likelihood that our own wishes would so far bear us, that we should exclaim with Sydney Smith—Oh! don't tell me of facts, I never believe facts! But we feel assured, on the other hand, that Sir Walter would himself never have opposed a free enquiry into the supposed authorship of the novels in question, and so conclude with a certain personage in 'Hard Times' to banish as far as possible feelings, and retain—nothing but facts.

Did we not know that Sir Walter Scott was a person of the strictest integrity and uprightness, his position as a gentleman and 'a Scotchman' would be, we conclude, sufficient guarantee for his word: and if his word is to be believed, the case runs against him. His assurance to Rogers that he was not the author, is supported by a statement still more corroborative, in Lockhart's Life. Not having this volume at hand* we quote from a transcript of the passage in Smith's Ramble in the Streets of London:—

Towards midnight the Prince called for a 'bumper' with all the honours to the 'Author of Waverley,' and looked significantly as he was charging his own glass, to Scott. Scott seemed somewhat puzzled for a moment, but instantly recovering himself, and filling his glass to the brim, said, 'Your Royal Highness looks as if you thought I had some claim to the honour of this toast. I have *no* such pretensions, but shall take good care that the real

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* Vol. III, p. 343, to which the reader is referred, and doubtless the admission acknowledged, that the Prince Regent certainly checkmated his guest, the author of Waverley, 'Walter, my man, for *ance*.'

Our correspondent and others who imagine Scott NOT to have been the author of the Waverley Novels, are certainly in error. The writer for some years, commencing in 1820, was the forager in London for many of the books on witches and warlocks, and matters relative to Scottish History, more particularly in reference to the Pretenders, which Scott required for his subsequent publications. These requirements were invariably made to the late Daniel Terry, and from him to the writer. A manuscript that had been forwarded to Scott, was in part used in the Pirate. The writer who had no doubt as to the authorship of the Novels, jocularly hinted to Terry, Can I now have any doubt as to the writer? He made no reply, and 'Surly' was as deafly unconcerned as if not spoken to. The fact is, Scott enjoined *secrecy* to all of his associates, and they maintained his faith admirably, though attempts were frequently made to unkennel him, in a variety of ways; at length confession was forced upon him, and he admitted himself to be the culprit. His previous assertions that he was 'not the author,' are to be looked upon as so many 'trading white lies,' and there are sufficient evidential facts, that not only did he up to that point endeavour to maintain his anonymous character, but pseudonymes were proposed, and only forborne on the advisedly steady remonstrances of those persons upon whose better judgment he relied. Ed.

Simon Pure hears of the high compliment that has now been paid him.' He then drank off his claret, and joined with a stentorian voice in the cheering, which the Prince himself timed.

The first of the Waverley Novels appeared in [1815,] the same year that the 'Lord of the Isles,' the author's last great poem, was given to the public. If it be indeed the work of an author hitherto unknown,' so wrote the critic in the Edinburgh Review, 'Mr. Scott would do well to look to his laurels.'

And let it be remembered, as a note worthy of fact, that even during the lifetime of Sir Walter, it was hinted, and believed by many, that his brother was the 'real Simon Pure,' and not himself.

In these hasty notes we have but strung together a few facts that may be useful to any one who shall with time and opportunity take up the gauntlet for, or against 'the Wizard of the North.' T. H. PATTISON.

THE LASS OF RICHMOND HILL.

In the recently published Memoirs of Mrs. Fitzherbert, by the Hon. Charles Langdale, it is stated she was born July 26, 1756, and at the time of her second widowhood, was residing on Richmond Hill, when she became the object of the Prince's attentions; and on the authority of Lord Stourton, it was at this conjuncture that her beauty was celebrated in a popular song, in which allusion was thus made to the addresses of the heir apparent:—

I'd crowns resign to call her mine,
Sweet lass of Richmond-hill.

This was a flourish of fancy, though it obtained a general currency, and the song most ridiculously has been attributed to the poetical capabilities of the Prince. A negative has been placed on the assertion by the claim of the grandson of the lady upon whom it appears to have been written. The writer it is said was Leonard McNally, born September 27, 1752, and the song was written by him in compliment to Miss Ianson, the daughter of Mr. William Ianson, of Richmond-hill, Seybourne, in Yorkshire; and who became the wife of McNally at St. George's, Hanover Square, on January 16, 1787.

Leonard McNally commenced as a dramatist with the comic opera, entitled, The Ruling Passion, performed at Dublin in 1779. Eight other pieces by him were represented at Covent Garden Theatre, from 1782 to 1786. Supposing him, upon his marriage, to have retired to Dublin professionally, as a barrister-at-law, the music of the words of the Lass of Richmond Hill, was composed as those of 'a new song,' by James Hook, the father of Dean Hook and the late Theodore Hook; and sung by Incledon at Vauxhall, in June or July 1789, where it was most popularly received.

Presuming Miss Ianson to have been 'the Lass of Richmond Hill;' Mrs. McNally died in Dominick Street, Dublin, in September, 1795; and Mr. McNally's marriage with Miss Louisa Edgeworth, daughter of the then deceased Rev. Robert Edgeworth, of Issaid, in the county of Longford, took place in April 1800.

COINAGE OF EDWARD THE FIRST.

Much pleased with the suggestion of Mr. Haswell, I think that a perfect list of the Coins of Edward the First, is a great desideratum, and therefore add my mite to the number already before the public.

LONDON.

1. EDV R ANGL' DNS HYB. Cross and large letters, as no. 1.
   CIVI TAS DON LON The two syllables reversed.
2. Another, obv. similar to no. 1., no abbreviatory mark.

YORK.

3. As no. 82. The cross formed by a pellet above and below the inner beaded circle.
4. As no. 82. EDW. thus, but no cross on the King's breast. On reverse, the quatrefoil differs from the last by the shape of the leaves. The pellet larger.
5. As no. 83. RDVV on obverse; on reverse, the leaves of the quatrefoil joined in the centre, with a small line through the middle of each leaf.
6. As no. 80. but RDVV on the obverse.

DUBLIN.

7. As no. 93, but no mark on reverse over DNS

WATERFORD.

8. As no. 99, excepting two dots below bust, and mark over DNS

Hartlepool, April 12. JOHN E. ROBSON.

In addition to the list printed in Current Notes, pp. 15-17, the following varieties have also come under my notice. They are principally taken from coins which were found at Tutbury, and passed into the hands of the late Mr. Wolston Roberts, of Derby. I must express my thanks to those gentlemen who have added to my previous list, but as noted by the editor, W. F. M.'s list contains many of Edward the Second's pennies, an account of which I hope shortly to send to your valuable publication.

Nottingham, April 15. F. R. N. HASWELL.

LONDON.

1. EDW R ANGL DNS HYB
   CIVITϵ LONDON
2. EDW R ANGL EX-DENS HYB
   CIVITAS LONDON
3. EDW R: ANGL DNS HYB
   CIVITAS LONDON as no. 1.
4. As no. 8, with English ϵ on obverse.
5. As no. 2, but with only one dot or roundel on the breast.
6. As no. 15, the s not reversed.
7. Obv. as the last but on reverse CIVITAS LVNDON

CANTERBURY.

8. As no. 32, but with Roman c's.
9. As no. 32; with EDVV not EDW

P. 24, col. 2, line 18 from bottom, read Edward I.

CHESTER.

10. As no. 40, but with brooch on the breast.
11. As no. 40, but with Roman c's.

ST. EDMUNDSBURY.

12. DW R' ANGL DNS HYB
ROBϵ RTDϵ HADE LEIE
13. As no. 60. On reverse, the RO DE and DE in HADELEIE united as dipthongs.
14. As no. 64. The English ϵ on obv. and reverse.

EXETER.

15. EDW R ANGL DNS HB No star on breast.
CIVITAS EXONIE Small letters, as no. 67.

KINGSTON-UPON-HULL.

16. As no. 68. Rev. VIL KYNGESTON

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

17. As no. 73, but with English ϵ.
18. As no. 74, but on reverse a pellet or roundel at end of each limb of the cross.

READING.

19. EDW R ANGL' DNS HYB
VIL LAR ADI NGY An escallop shell in the first quarter below VIL. Three pellets in the rest.

The arms of the Abbey of Reading, founded by King Henry the First, who was buried here in 1133, and also his daughter Maud; were azure, three escalops or. The escalop is therefore the abbatial mark on the pennies struck in the time of the Abbot Robert de Burghare, who resigned in 1287.

YORK.

20. As no. 84. English ϵ on the reverse only.

DUBLIN.

21. As no. 94. On obverse, a low placed dot before EDW and on the reverse the English ϵ.

WATERFORD.

22. ϵDW R' ANGL' DNS HYB' Below the bust are two dots, the letters small.
CIVITAS WATERFOR' Letters larger than on obverse.

ANCIENT CROSSES IN WEST OF CORNWALL.

The recent publication of Mr. J. T. Blight's highly illustrated volume on the Greek, Transition, Latin and Gothic Crosses; with the Celtic, Druidical, and Roman remains in the West of Cornwall, is one of those pleasurable books which ever and anon brighten the path of the antiquary and the archæologist. Drawn from the immediate objects as still seen, and engraved by the same artist, the illustrations are entitled to the highest commendation for their graphic resemblance to the originals, and are singularly valuable in aiding the reference of writers on these subjects. There are eighty pictorial representations, and in several, the positions of the objects as placed by the roadside or otherwise, are admirably pourtrayed, and opportunely recalling the object to the remembrance of the traveller in days which have past.

With much truth it may be observed, the ancient crosses, still so numerous in the western part of Cornwall, have been hitherto generally neglected by the antiquary; while, from having been formed of the enduring granite, many are almost as perfect now as when they were first placed on their respective sites. It is possible they may have been equally numerous in other parts of the county, but the gradual occupation of the waste lands has caused their almost entire extinction. Some of them have been used as building materials, which has been the case more generally of late years. Many have undergone mutilation by ignorant or mischievous persons, and in this neighbourhood, the mutilated parts of many may be seen built into hedges.

Adopted in the early ages by the Christians as an emblem of their faith, the Cross is believed to have been introduced with Christianity into Britain so early as the year 60. Constantine the Great, having in 311 embraced the Christian religion, is said to have set up in many places the Cross as a symbol, and became sole master of the Roman Empire in 323. The taunts of the people becoming, however, offensive to him, he in 330, quitted Rome for Byzantium, and named the city Constantinople. The conversion of the Irish is said to have followed the landing of St. Patrick in Ireland in 432; and so rapid was the promulgation of the doctrine of the Cross, that in 490, Ireland was named the Isle of Saints. Cornwall, it is stated, received its first missionaries from Ireland, and it is not improbable that some of the crosses yet remaining, were set up in this district so early as the sixth century. The Cornish Britons continued separately distinct from the Saxons, to the period of the Conquest, when their lands were appropriated by the Norman chiefs; and it is probable that the public monuments remained undisturbed and unprofaned until later times, when frequent changes occurred in the proprietary of the soil.

The Knights of St. John, an order instituted in 1099, bore a cross, black upon white. Hugh de Payens, the first Superior of the Knights' Templars, visited England in 1128, when many grants of land in Cornwall were made to that fraternity, and the symbol of martyrdom, the blood-red cross, of the same form as that worn by the order of St. John, was granted to the Templars, by Pope Eugenius III., at Paris in 1146, on the commencement of the second Crusade. Both Orders held lands in Cornwall, and the peculiar form of their cross, which occurs in some few instances in the county, may possibly have been introduced by them.

Crosses were used from an early period of the Christian era, to the time of the Reformation, and their style varied in accordance with the different periods, from the most simple or even rude forms, to others more chaste and elegant. The Latin form of the cross continued in Western Europe until 1050, when began the schism between the Latin and Greek churches, and during this contention, the Greek crosses in this neighbourhood are generally supposed to owe their introduction.

Crosses served sometimes to denote a place of sepul-

ture, or to mark the resting places of the corpse on the way to its interment. The churchyard crosses were not always monumental, for occasionally one was placed near the south or chief entrance to the church, suggestive of due preparation previously to entering the sacred building. Occasionally congregations were addressed by the priest, and proclamations made from such crosses. The crosses set up in market places had much the same purposes; from these, proclamations of war or peace, or any other matter of general interest were made known in purport to the people generally. The view of one, as it formerly stood in the market place at Penzance is here shewn.*

Crosses on the highways served as prayer-stations, and as indices or guide-posts to the different baptistries, oratories, or other religious foundations: many of them were of great public utility, being erected on dreary moors, where there were no other indications to direct the sojourner on his way. At these stations, the rich traveller often deposited alms for the succour of the poor or distressed wayfarer who might follow him.

Many crosses still stand near the sites of churches or chapels which have long since been destroyed, and of which no other vestiges remain. All these varieties and their peculiarities, are severally graphically defined, and in reference to the divisions which have been adopted, that is, the Greek, the Transition, and the Latin Crosses, the author observes, these are in many instances not free from objection, and must of course be to some extent arbitrary; since several which have a Greek cross on one face, have a Latin or Transition cross on the other; and many which now have four equal parts, like the Greek cross, have evidently been broken off from the elongated shaft of the Latin: some indulgence is therefore solicited for the attempt at identification.

* The cross, in height five feet, and in breadth two feet three inches, was moved in 1829 from the centre of the market-place. The following inscription—

HIC PROCVMBVNT CORPORA PIORVM;

was then found near the base, on the reverse side.

EXCHEQUER PAYMENTS WITHOUT ACCOUNT,

From March 25, 1721, to March 25, 1725, inclusive.
(Printed from the original record.)

To Thomas Lowther, Gent., as a Gift from His Majesty, towards building the parish church of St. Martins. 105*l.*

[Dr. Willis, Bishop of Salisbury and Lord Almoner, on behalf of His Majesty, laid the first stone in the foundation of the parish church of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, March 19, 1721-2; and presented the workmen with one hundred guineas from His Majesty. To this donation, the record appears to refer].

To John Tooker, for Arthur Collins [Compiler of the Peerage]. 200*l.*

To Dr. James Douglas, for his performance, and towards publishing his Anatomical Observations. 500*l.*

[Dr. Douglas will be long held in remembrance from the extraordinary number of the editions of Horace which he collected].

To Dr. Thomas Renton, for making known his Art, Skill and Mystery in curing Ruptures. 5000*l.*

To Sir Richard Steele, as of Royal Bounty. 500*l.*

[He was also restored to the office of Comptroller of the Theatre Royal, May 18, 1721].

To Philip Dormer Stanhope, commonly called Lord Stanhope, in lieu of a Jewel. 500*l.*

[His father James Stanhope, married Feb. 24, 1713, Lucy, daughter of Governor Pitt, memorable for having given name as the possessor, to the great Diamond among the Crown Jewels of France. Philip Dormer Stanhope was born in 1714; and the father created Earl of Stanhope, April 14, 1718. The Earl died Feb. 4, 1721, and by the King's command had a military funeral. This gift of a Jewel, to the second Earl, then so young, appears to have been in consideration of his father's services].

To Charles Maitland, Surgeon, for inoculating Prince Frederick [father of King George III.], for the small pox. 1000*l.*

To Zachary Pearce, Vicar of St. Martins, as of Royal Bounty, to erect an Organ there. 1500*l.*

To Thomas Lowther, Gent., for His Majesty's Service. 43,000*l.*

To Sir Joseph Eyles, Knt., for the Young Princesses. 79,000*l.*

To the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and others, for the repair of Westminster Abbey. 24,000*l.*

To Colonel Jasper Clayton, for inspecting the demolition of Dunkirk. 482*l.*

To Christopher Tilson, to answer the value of Pictures, bought by His Majesty, of John Laws, Esq. 4215*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

[Qu. Was this Christopher Tilson, the younger brother of Henry Tilson? See Walpole's Painters, edit. 1827, vol. III., p. 205. The pictures appear to have been purchased of the memorable originator of the Missisippi Scheme in France; dismissed by the Regent, to appease the clamour of the multitudes his projects had ruined, he returned to England, Oct. 2, 1721; and on Nov. 28, pleaded at the

King's Bench bar, His Majesty's pardon, for the murder in 1694, of Richard Wilson, Esq., better known in history as Beau Wilson].

To Charles King, Esq., for charges and expences in printing "The British Merchant," [printed in three volumes, 8vo.] 395*l.* 16*s.*

To Gabriel Bourdon, Merchant, for twenty-six bustoes with marble pedestals, for His Majesty. 600*l.*

To several persons for their houses and goods burned at Preston. 4730*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*

To Joseph Downing, printer for "The Soldier's Monitor" 268*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.*

To Peter Waller, for Henry [fourth] Earl of Clarendon, in consideration of resuming the Mansion-house gate at Whitehall. 6000*l.*

To Thomas Pain, Gent., for transcribing the Journals of the House of Lords and Commons. 1637*l.* 17*s.*

To Dr. Edward Halley, to furnish Her Majesty's observatory at Greenwich, with instruments 500*l.*

To William Elliot, Gent., for funeral charges of the late Earl of Clarendon. 200*l.*

[Edward Hyde, the third Earl, who died March 31, 1723; he was succeeded by his cousin and heir, Henry Hyde, the fourth Earl, and second Earl of Roobester].

To Robert Saunderson, Esq., for making three additional Volumes to Rymer's Fœdera. 700*l.*

To the Kings, Heralds, and Pursuivants at arms, for a largess or reward upon the creation of Nobility. 245*l.*

To Richard Topham, Gent., Keeper of the Records in the Tower, for clerks, 150*l.* per annum. 637*l.* 10*s.*

To George Holmes, Gent., his chief clerk, 100*l.* per annum. 425*l.*

To Philip Horneck, Gent., 200*l.* per annum. 850*l.*

To Henry Portman, Esq., Keeper of Hyde Park, 200*l.* per annum.

To the same, for watering the Ring, 200*l.* per annum.

To David Casley, Deputy Keeper of Cotton Library, 82*l.* per annum. 387*l.*

To Thomas Coke, Esq., Vice-Chamberlain of the Household, 600*l.* per annum. 2505*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*

To Richard West, Esq., 300*l.* per annum. 225*l.*

To Joseph Roberts, Keeper of Her Majesty's Water Engine at Windsor, 40*l.* per annum.

To Charles, Duke of St. Albans, Master of the Hawks. Fee, 10*s* per diem. Thirty shillings per month, and 800*l.* per annum. 6176*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.*

[Charles Beauclerk, second Duke of St. Albans, the grandson of King Charles the Second and Nell Gwynne. He had also an annuity of 1000*l.* per annum; was Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire, and Governor of Windsor Castle. He died July 27, 1751].

To Hugh Howard, Keeper of the Records in Whitehall. 800*l.*

To Thomas Chaplin, Esq., Keeper of the Tennis Court, Fee, eight pence per day; and 120*l.* per annum. 495*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*

To Dr. Richard Bentley, Clerk of the King's Library, Fee, 200*l.* per annum. 750*l.*

To Charles Killigrew, Esq., Master of the Revels, Fee, 10*l.* per annum. 32*l.* 10*s.*

To L'Estrange Syms, Comptroller of the Revels, Fee, eight pence per diem. 39*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*

To William Lee, Latin Secretary, Fee, 80*l.* per annum. 320*l.*

To the same, Annuity of 200*l.* 650*l.*

To the Kings, Heralds, and Pursuivants of arms on their several Fees. 1675*l.*

To Jane Grace Incledon, Keeper of the Palace at Westminster, Fee, sixpence per diem. 37*l.* 8*s.*

To Sir Christopher Wren, Queen's Surveyor of the Works, 2*s.* 6*d.* per diem. 11*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*

[Sir Christopher Wren, who after the great fire in 1666, had been constituted Surveyor General for the rebuilding the Cathedral and other public edifices; and in 1669, Surveyor General of the Royal Works, was ungratefully displaced by party influence in 1718. He died in the ninety-first year of his age, Feb. 25, 1722-3]

To Christopher Wren, Esq., Clerk of the Queen's Works, Fee, One hundred marks per ann. 16*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

To John Incledon, Esq., late Keeper of the Queen's Palace at Westminster, Fee, sixpence per diem. 4*l.* 11*s.*

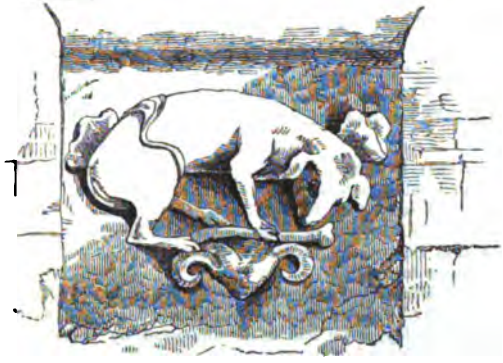
CORBEL IN BRECHIN CATHEDRAL TOWER.

Brechin was created a bishoprick in 1150, by David the First, King of Scotland, who also founded the church, which was built by the side of the celebrated Round Tower of that place, but the time is not exactly known; no record remains of the progress of the work, or that it was finished. At the time of the Reformation, induced by John Knox, the infuriated zealots sternly adopted the advice of their leader, "to pull down the trees, and cause the rooks to fly away," and Brechin shared the fate of many of the old Popish fanes in Scotland: it was nearly destroyed, but the remains shew that in its palmy days the church of Brechin had been an edifice of considerable extent and of much elegance in its construction. The ruins of the chancel still present some beautiful examples of the early English style of Gothic architecture. The west window, approaching in similarity to the flamboyant tracery of the famous window in the church of St. Ouen at Rouen, is yet in good preservation; but the principal door of entrance, immediately below that window, has suffered sadly from the storms of ages, and the reed enrichment, of which at one time it could boast, and was supposed to be an unique feature in Gothic architecture, has almost wholly crumbled away.

The nave, at the time of the Reformation, was appropriated as a parish church, but in a sorry attempt at some misnamed improvements, in 1806, the old aisles and cloisters were wholly demolished.

The square tower, or belfry, is at the north-west corner of the church, and with its octagonal spire, one hundred and twenty-eight feet in height, is a beautifully proportioned and imposing object. The bartizan, or top of the tower, is ascended by a spiral staircase, and the

tower itself may be said to be divided into several compartments. The lowermost, having a groined roof, the arches springing from illuminated corbels terminating in a plain circle, is the meeting place of the presbytery, and session of Brechin; and in the upper part the great bell is suspended. In the latter compartment rises the base of the spire of the tower, and the four corbels, on which the base rests, bear beautiful carvings in high relief. The sculptures are about seven inches in height, and from ten to twelve inches in length. Three of the ornaments are floral, and bear no particular peculiarity, excepting the broad and effective manner in which they are executed; but the fourth, here represented, is more remarkable—



It abuts from the north-east corner of the tower, and, as will be seen, represents—a whimsical freak in design—a dog with its tail strangely turned over the back, picking a bone, and supported by a ram's head and horns—it is the only corbel of this description I have yet seen.

A deed in the Registrum Ecclesiæ Cathedralis de Brechin, now in the press, may be said to afford some data for believing that the square tower or steeple, in which this singular corbel is found, was either built or repaired by Patrick de Leuchars, bishop of Brechin, from 1354 to about the year 1373, and who for sometime held the office of Chancellor of Scotland. This is the only deed having any reference to the building or restoring any part of the Cathedral. Possibly some reader of Current Notes may have seen a similarly devised corbel elsewhere; if so, the date of the building in which it appears might be useful in ascertaining the exact period of the erection of the square tower at Brechin, which, notwithstanding the passing notice in the deed referred to, is as yet an unauthenticated surmise.

Brechin, April 10. A. J.

CHIFNEY.—Are there any particulars known of the death of the once celebrated jockey Samuel Chifney, whose volume entitled—Genius Genuine, and published at Five guineas! occasioned no little stir in its day?

Newmarket, April 5. M.

He died in January, 1807, in the rules of the Fleet prison.

THE TREATY OF PEACE PEN.

So, after all the high-flown descriptions of eagle-winged pride, that the pen with which the Plenipotentiaries were to sign the Articles of Peace was being richly jewelled by the jeweller of the Emperor's household, the incident simply solves itself into these particulars.

The pen with which the Treaty of Peace was signed, was made from a quill taken from the wing of an eagle, at the Jardin des Plantes. Immediately after the signatures, it was placed on a sheet of white paper, and the seals of all the Powers represented at the Congress, accompanied by the signatures of the Plenipotentiaries, were attached about it, and below it was written the attestation:

I certify that this pen was taken by me from the Imperial Eagle, at the Jardin des Plantes, and that it served for the signature of the Treaty of Peace of the 30th of March, 1856.

FEUILLET DE CONCHES,
Chef de Bureau du Protocol.

The whole was then placed in a gilded frame, and a glass fixed over it, to be presented to the Empress.

Athenæum Club, April 4. M.

CLERICAL BELL FOUNDER.

In Bowen's Manuscript Collections for Shropshire, among Gough's Topographical books, deposited in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, is the following extract from the register of Thomas Botelar, vicar of Wenlock, in the reigns of Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary and Elizabeth.

1546. May 26, buried out of tow tenements in Mardfold-street, next St. Owen's well, Sir William Corvehill, priest of the seruice of our lady in this church, which 2 tenements belonged to the said seruice; he had them in his occupacōn in part of his wages, which was viij marks and the said houses in an ov.'plus. He was well skilled in geometry, not by speculation but by experience: could make organs, clocks and chimes; in keruing in masonry, and silk-weauing and painting, and could make all instruments of musick, and was a uery patient and gud man, borne in this borowe, and somtyme monk in the monastery;* two brethren he had, called dōpne John, monk in said monastery; and Sir Andreu Corvehill, a secular priest, who died at Croydon in Surry; on whose souls God haue mercy.

All this country had a great loss of sir William, for he was a good bell founder and maker of frames.

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* Wenlock olim Wimnicas was first a nunnery erected about 680 by St. Milburga, daughter to King Merwald, who presided over it. It was destroyed by the Danes, but restored by Leofric, Earl of Chester, in the time of King Edward the Confessor; but being abandoned, and falling into decay, it was in 1080 rebuilt and endowed for a prior and convent of Cluniac monks, by Roger of Montgomery, Earl of Arundel, Chichester, and Shrewsbury. It was dedicated to St. Milburg, who was said to have been buried here; and upon the dissolution of all monastical institutions in 1537, was granted by King Henry VIII. to Augustine de Augustinis. William 'somtyme monk,' appears on the suppression to have conformed to the new faith.

BIBLICAL QUOTATIONS BY SHAKESPEARE.

Shakespeare in his Dramas has frequently quoted from the Bible; take the following as examples:—

Rude am I in speech. Othello, Act i. sc. 3.

But though I be rude in speech. 2 Corinthians, ch. xi. v. 6.

Shew his eyes and grieve his heart. Macbeth, Act iv. sc. 2.

Consume thy eyes and to grieve thine heart. 1 Samuel, ch. ii. v. 33.

Lighted fools the way to dusty death. Macbeth, Act v. sc. 3.

Thou hast brought me into the dust of death. Psalm xxii 15.

Mistake me not for my complexion,
The shadow'd livery of the burning sun. Merchant of Venice, Act ii. sc. 1.

Look not upon me, because I am black, because the sun has looked upon me. Song of Solomon, ch. i. v. 6.

I took by the throat the circumcised dog, and smote him thus. Othello, Act. v. sc. 2.

I caught him by his beard, and smote him. 1 Samuel, ch. xvii. v. 35.

Let this pernicious hour stand aye accursed in the calender. Macbeth, Act iv. sc. 2.

Cursed his day; let it not be joined unto the days of the year. Job, ch. iii. v. 6.

We will die with harness on our back. Macbeth, Act v. sc. 5.

Nicanor lay dead in his harness. 2 Maccabees, ch. xv. v. 28.

Possibly some of your readers may be both able and willing to add to the above passages?

Thornhill, April 8. T. B. G.

PEPYS. In some notices of Parliamentary representatives, 1677, it is stated, SAMUEL PEPYS, the member for Castle-Rising, was originally a taylor, then servingman to Lord Sandwich, now Secretary to the Admiralty; has got by passes and other illegal wayes 40,000*l.*

ANGEL'S VISITS.—In what writer or poem occurs the line commencing—

Like angel's visits few and far between?

Cheltenham, April 3. H. S. H.

In Campbell's Pleasures of Hope, in the second part. The lines are—

What though my winged hours of bliss have been,
Like Angel's visits, few and far between.

Campbell, however, seems to have been indebted for this poetical expression to Blair, in whose admirable poem entitled the Grave, first printed in 1743, are the lines—

—— The good he scorn'd
Stalked off reluctant like an ill used ghost,
Not to return; or if it did, its visits
Like those of Angels, short and far between.

English Poets, by Chalmers, 1810, vol. xv. p. 67, col. 2.

THE BLIND MAN'S COMPLAINT.

An old manuscript in my possession, has with many more, the following lines:—

While night's black muffler hoodeth up the skies,
The silly blind man misseth not his eyes;
But when the day summons to worke againe,
His night eternall then hee doth complaine
That he goes groping, and his hand, alas!
Is faine to guide his foot and guard his face.

They are margined thus—Du Bartas, Impost., page 263. Are they original, or from any translation of Du Bartas? H. J. LITTLE.

These lines commence a simile in The Imposture, a poem printed in Du Bartas His Diuine Weekes and Workes, translated by Josvah Sylvester, 1641, folio, p. 94, col. 1.

Letter from Richard Grenville, first Earl Temple, K.G., but second in the Earldom of Buckingham; addressed to the Right Honourable Hans Stanley.

Norwich, March ye 8th, 1768.

My dear Stanley. You will excuse my reminding you of your kind engagement to lend me a thousand pounds from Lady-day for six months. If not inconvenient I would wish it might be paid into Mr. Drummond's hands, and that his receipt might be accepted as a voucher till my return to London.

My Friends have made a handsome figure in our County Battle; Mr. Coke would have succeeded as well as Sir Edward Astley, if he had been supported by those from whom he had an indisputable right to expect it.

An account which has just reached me of Lady Buckingham's having brought me a third daughter, a circumstance which distresses me upon account of my own feelings, and much more from my knowledge of her's, will I hope apologise for my not adding more than that assurance, which flows naturally from my pen, of the regard and affection, with which I am,

Your most faithful and obedient servant,
BUCKINGHAM.

Lady Buckingham was Anne, da. and coheir of Thomas Chambers, of Hanworth, co. Middlesex, Esq.; a lady of some celebrity, whose poems were printed in 1754, at Strawberry Hill. The Earl, born in 1711, died without surviving issue, Sept. 11, 1779.

THE "FORGET ME NOT" FLOWER.

Bishop Mant gives the traditionary creed for the name of this flower. Where are the complete verses to be found, and by whom were they written?

Then the blossoms blue, to the bank he threw,
Ere he sank in the eddying tide;
And Lady I'm gone, thine own Knight true,
Forget me Not! he cried.

The farewell pledge the Lady caught,
And hence, as legends say—
The flower is a sign to awaken thought
Of friends who are far away.

Crakemarsh, April 15. M. A. C. S.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXV.] "Takes note of what is done—
By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [MAY, 1856.

OXFORDSHIRE PAROCHIAL MEMORANDA.

In Current Notes, pp. 30-31, are some interesting memoranda relative to the manor of Glympton. The earliest Register book of that parish, made of parchment, does not commence till "the 25th of June, in the year of our Lord, 1667;" one hundred and twenty-nine years after the issuing of the injunction by Thomas Lord Cromwell, for the keeping of registers. Possibly the following extracts, which with many others, by the kind permission of the late Rev. T. Nucella, I made from that register may be worth adding.

At p. 23, is an entry made by the rector, it appears in 1686, 2 James II., to the following effect.

Memorandum: Least the not demanding any other offerings att Easter then what are given att the Sacrament should be thought a neglect of mine, I am concerned to leave to my successors, this account which I had from some of the most understanding of the parish.

Whereas anciently there was a barbarous custom here for all the house-keepers, and which is worse the (judicious) rabble, to come to the Minister's house on Easter-day after the Sacrament, to demand bread and cheese, and drink themselves full of ale, and in process of time, meate, pigeon pyes, etc. This rudeness was broken off by way of exchange, that is, the quitting the Easter two-pences; and whereas long afterward, my predecessor demanded Easter-offerings, the parish came and demanded their ancient custom, which he was forced and glad to be ridden of. This I had from the mouth of an honest neighbour, who was one of those who came to demand it.

Ita est STEPH. PENTON, Rector.

Under another heading there is a subsequent reference.

CUSTOMES AND USAGES IN GLYMPTON.

1. A Fee Farm: rent payable at Michaelmas to Mr. Samuel Barton. 6*s.* 8*d.*
2. A dinner at Christmas, not on any certain day, for such house-keepers as take no almes.
3. The poor who take alms, have one peck of wheat, and one shilling.
4. Noe two-pences demanded att Easter, above the ordinary Oblations att the Sacrament, for a reason ascertained at p. 23. [As above.]

The Glympton register, with many others in the north of Oxfordshire, which I have examined, contains items relative to the sums being collected for the redemption of the English who were captives and in slavery in Turkey; a curious contrast with the present state of the two countries.

Deddington, May 12. C. FAULKNER.

ST. ANDREW'S OLD CHURCH, PORTLAND.

This edifice, at the southern extremity of the island, very near to the sea, was erected and dedicated to St. Andrew, in 1475. The tower was plain, and had no bell, it was detached by nearly three feet from the body of the church. The woodcut is from a very old drawing of the principal entrance; inscribed over the doorway—

Psalmes the 122. I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

Alex. Pearce. Phil. Dorent. Churchwardens, 1686.

Queen Anne presented this church with a Prayer-book, having the Service of the Healing, for the use of the parishioners; with the following presentation:—

To the Minister and Churchwardens of ye Churche of St. Andrew, in ye Island and Manor Royal of Portlande.

This Booke of Common Prayer, is given by commande of the Queen's Majestie to the above-named Church, for the use of the Ministers thereof.

ANNE R. NOTTINGHAM.

Hampton Courte,
May ye 8th, 1708.

The signatures are those of Her Majesty, and her principal Minister of State, but at what time it ceased to be a part of the church property is a question; it was however purchased recently at a book stall, by a gentleman, by whom it was sent to the Rev. David Hogarth, Rector of Portland, who has recently deposited it as a donation in the Portland County Museum.

From the Act of Parliament, 29 Geo. II., we learn

that this church was then in a ruinous condition, occasioned by several settlements in the foundation from time to time; further, that it was in a very dangerous situation, the cliff having fallen into the sea, by which the verge of the remaining part was within thirty-six feet of the foundation; upon these representations, the demolition of the old and much decayed church was commenced in 1754, and the materials used in the new one.

Dorchester, May 2. JOHN GARLAND.

TRADITION OF RICHARD THE THIRD'S BEDSTEAD.

A paragraph in Current Notes, p. 27, has recalled to my mind a circumstance communicated to me some years since, by an eminent English antiquary, respecting the bedstead on which Richard the Third slept, August 21, 1485, on the night previous to the battle of Bosworth Field, at the Blue Boar Inn, Leicester. The bedstead so occupied by the king, according to my informant, is still extant, the history of which, as related by Sir Roger Twysden, is not a little curious.

When King Richard marched into Leicestershire against Henry Earl of Richmond, he lay at the Blue Boar Inn, in the town of Leicester, where a large wooden bedstead, gilded in some places, after his defeat, the bedding being all taken from it, was either through haste, or as a thing of little value, left to the people of the house. Thenceforward this old bedstead, which was boarded at the bottom, as the manner was in those days, became a piece of standing furniture, and passed from tenant to tenant with the inn. This house, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, was kept by one Clarke, who put a bed on this bedstead, which, his wife going to make hastily, and tumbling the bedstead, a piece of gold dropped out, this excited the woman's curiosity: she narrowly examined this piece of furniture, and finding it had a double bottom, took off the uppermost with a chisel, upon which she discovered the space between them filled with gold; part of it coined by King Richard III., and the rest in earlier times. Clarke concealed this good fortune, though by degrees the effect made it known, for from a low condition, he became rich, and in the space of a few years, Mayor of the town, and then the story of the bedstead came to be rumoured by the servants. At his death, he left his estate to his wife, who continued to keep the inn, though she was known to be very rich, which put some wicked persons upon engaging the maid-servant to assist in robbing her. These folks to the number of seven, lodged in the house, plundered it, and carried off some horse loads of valuable things, yet left a considerable quantity of valuables scattered about the floor. As for Mrs. Clarke, who was very fat, she endeavoured to cry out for help, upon which her maid thrust her fingers down her throat, and choaked her, for which act she was burnt, and the seven men who were her accomplices, were hanged at Leicester, some time in the year 1613.

In addition to the foregoing statement by Sir Roger Twysden, I have heard that the bedstead was subsequently possessed by one Alderman Drake; I am however of opinion, that it is not at all likely such a piece of furniture would or could be carried about, by a person like Richard III.; it is far more probable that it had been the best in the inn, and that the gold might have been secreted where it was subsequently discovered, by the king himself, to be available for his purposes after the battle.

Could Mr. Kelly, or any reader of Current Notes say what has become of this bedstead, or in whose possession it now remains?

King Richard's body after the battle, was, it is asserted, exposed for some time, and then buried in the church of the Grey Friars, in Leicester. It is also stated, that King Henry VII. bestowed a monument upon his rival, which, on the dissolution of religious houses by Henry VIII., was demolished, and Richard's stone coffin actually served for a horse trough, at the White Horse Inn, in Leicester.

Downpatrick, May 1. JAMES A. PILSON.

The tradition quoted by your correspondent, Mr. J. A. PILSON, is well known in this locality, and generally speaking is, in all its details, as an article of faith, popularly believed. Sir Roger Twysden, in his Decem Scriptores, 1652, first placed these assertions upon record; and he is said to have "had it from persons of undoubted credit, who were not only inhabitants of Leicester, but who saw the murderers executed," and from him, these assertions have been transmitted by subsequent writers, down to Miss Halstead, in whose biography of Richard III., they have been garnished by some *slight* poetical embellishments. The advance however that has been made of late years in the study of archæology, and the distinguished characteristics of architecture, furniture, and moveables, has been the means of exposing many falsely supposed reliques, and the so long vaunted King Richard the Third's bedstead is among the number. Among the most prominent of those who expressed their doubts on the subject, was Mr. J. G. Nichols, who, proceeding to the opposite extreme, in an article some years since in the Gentleman's Magazine, and more recently in the Literary Remains of Mr. J. S. Hardy, edited by him, endeavoured to prove that the whole tradition, which rested solely on the authority of Sir Roger Twysden, was nothing more than "an old wife's tale," nay, that the king never slept at the Blue Boar at all; and still more, that there was no such inn at Leicester.

Without attempting a thorough investigation of these assertions, I shall content myself with noticing the more salient points of the story, and of Mr. Nichols's doubts. That the Blue Boar Inn at Leicester, was well known in the reign of Queen Elizabeth there are ample documentary proofs; whilst the traditionary story of the murder of Mrs. Clarke, has since the publication of Mr. Nichols's denial of the fact, been confirmed in the main relation, by the discovery in the Borough Muniment Room, of the original depositions of the witnesses in the case, taken before the Justices of the Peace, at the time of the murder. From these documents, the following facts are derived:—

Shortly before Christmas, 1603, one Thomas Harrison came out of Staffordshire to Leicester, and lodged

for several days at the Blue Boar Inn, then kept by Mrs. Clarke. He there fell in speech with Alice Grumbold, a maid of the house, in the way of marriage. Whereupon, she told him, "her mistress had great store of money in her house, and bade him come again some night and bring a secret friend with him she might trust, and there would be means made to get some of her money." Harrison proceeded to Lichfield, and took into his confidence Adam Bonus, who communicated the plan of the robbery to one Edward Bradshaw, and they arranged to meet at Leicester, and carry it into effect. Accordingly, Harrison and Bradshaw, on Friday, February 1, 1604, rode to Leicester, and on the following day, they removed with their horses to the Blue Boar Inn, lay there all night, and staid all day, on Sunday. In the mean time Bonus, who had appointed to meet the others at the Blue Boar, came on Saturday to Leicester, and after some conversation with Alice Grumbold, in the absence of Harrison and Bradshaw, determined not to take part in the intended robbery; and in fact after the murder, he turned 'king's evidence.'

The particulars of the murder are these—Alice Grumbold deposed, that about ten o'clock on Sunday night, Feb. 3, she and her fellow servant, Waters, went into the stable with provender for the horses, and that Bradshaw and Harrison followed them; she then went to the well to draw water for the horses, Bradshaw at the same time returning to the house, where they had left the mistress all alone. On returning to the stable, she found her fellow-servant bound, and Harrison, doubtless according to previous arrangement, seized and bound her also. She was soon however, unbound, and seemingly by force taken by them into the house, to open her mistress's coffers, the first of which was full of linen; the second, full of writings; and the third, contained money. From this last, they took out several bags of money, most of which, having previously brought out their horses, they fastened to the pommels of their saddles. Alice would gladly have gone away with them, whereat they swore "by God's wounds, if thou comest with us, thou wilt both hang us and thyself." They then took her into the hall, and there bound her; Harrison at the same time gave her a linen cloth, wherein was money and other things, and said he would in ten days, come again, to fetch her and it. The money she had was 42*l.* 17*s.*, beside two silver rings, and a gold ring. In her second examination, she added, that after she was left bound in the chimney in the hall, her legs not being fast bound, she got up, and went into the buttery to see how her mistress did, where, being unable to get out again, she lay till morning, when one of the neighbours came into the house to light a candle, and unbound her. Beside the plunder carried off, it appears there were seven or eight bags of 'money or gold,' and certain plate were left behind on Mrs. Clarke's bed. As to the actual perpetration of the murder, no direct evidence appears, possibly the account as narrated by Sir Roger Twisden, may be the fact, and the circumstance of the maid's choaking her mistress, may probably be true. Harrison declared that "for his part he did Mrs. Clarke no harm, nor did so much as think to kill or hurt her, but what Bradshaw did he knew not; for to his knowledge, she was living at their going away." He added, Alice Grumbold, "the maid, was the only setter of the match, for they had not dealt therein but by her procurement." She however protested, that although she could not clear herself from the robbery and consenting thereto, she was clear from the murder of her mistress, and asserted "in her conscience Bradshaw did murder her."

The plunder borne off by these robbers was never recovered, they declared they did not know what the bags contained, silver or gold, for in their flight, it was hidden by them in the bank of a ditch near Pooley park, in Warwickshire, but they believed, if it consisted of silver, there was from three to five hundred pounds. Being apprehended on some other charge and imprisoned, Bradshaw, through the instrumentality of Lord Stafford,* was bailed, and on his going to the ditch side for the money, found it had been removed.

They were subsequently apprehended on the charge of the murder of Mrs. Clarke, and brought to Leicester. The result of the trial appears on record among our Hall papers, in the following notice, on a slip of parchment:—

'Our Assizes holden at Leicester upon Tuesday, March 25, 1606, before Sir Peter Warburton, Knt.; at which Assizes Edward Bradshaw was executed for murthering Mrs. Clarke, and Alice Grumbolde burned for the same murther.' Harrison's fate is not recorded.

Twysden, it is evident, errs in the date assigned by him, and two, not seven men were concerned with the maid Alice, in this diabolical act. The particulars advanced however establish the tradition as based on fact.

The story of King Richard's bedstead, and the discovery of the treasure secreted within it, rests wholly on tradition. That, now recognized as King Richard's bedstead, is indisputably a fine specimen of the late Elizabethan style, and has no concurrent similitude with those constructed more than a century before. Twysden's statement that "from a low condition Clarke soon became rich, and in the course of a few years, Mayor of the Town," would seem to be a recapitulation of some locally accredited belief, while it affords no evidence as to the discovery of the gold in the way related by those who placed credence in the tradition. Thomas Clarke mine host of the Blue Boar Inn, from the mode in which the money and valuables was garnered by Mrs. Clarke, was possibly of thrifty habit, might have inherited property from relations, or from his long and constant success as an innkeeper; still, certain it is that Thomas Clarke was mayor of Leicester, in 1598-9, and was an illiterate character, unable to subscribe his name. By his will, dated June 15, 1603, he bequeathed part of his property to charitable uses, and died a few days later in that month. Search has been made in the Archdeaconry Court for his will, in the hope that the inventory attached to it would afford some fact illustrative of the history of

* Edward Stafford, the third baron, who died in 1625.

the bedstead, but the roll for that year is missing. These facts are suggestive, that Clarke during his mayoralty might have had this bedstead constructed for his use; and on his year of official greatness expiring, it was moved to his inn. The murder of his widow in February, 1604, doubtless placed the inn in other hands, and they possibly to draw custom created the fable of Richard having sought repose in that inn, and as any bedstead would answer the purpose, exhibited that on which possibly the ex-mayor died in 1603. This was a period of poetical fancies, the story of Dick Whittington and his Cat had its origin at this time; these romances spread far and wide, and were as eagerly credited by all classes of persons, the more incredible and strange they were in their purport, they were found to be vastly more agreeable, and in some panegyrical lines by an anonymous writer, prefixed to Tom Coryàte's Crudities, printed in 1611; there are recounted among the 'penny sights' then popular in England, in London, and elsewhere, the following:—

The lance of John o'Gaunt, and Brandon's still i'the Tower,
The fall of Nineveh, and Norwich built in an hower;
King Henry's slip shoes, the sword of valiant Edward,
The Coventry Boare's shield, and fireworks seen but to bedward:
Drake's ship at Deptford, *King Richard's bed sted i'Leyster*,
The White Hall whale bones, the silver bason i'Chester.

The bedstead, after having been for several generations in the family of Babington, of Rothley, has lately passed by purchase into the possession of W. Perry Herrick, Esq., of Beaumanor Park, in this county.

There are some other curious matters connected with the subject which would have been worth noting, irrespective of King Richard; among them, the charge of treason, which a few years previously had been brought against Mrs. Clarke, when Mayoress, for having said, 'the Queen deserved a rope, etc.,' as also, the particulars of the attempt to procure by bribery, through Lord Stafford, a pardon for Bradshaw.

Leicester, May 10. WILLIAM KELLY.

SHAKESPEARE'S BARDOLPH AND PISTOL.

The muster-roll of artillerymen serving under Humphrey Fitz-Allan, Earl of Arundel, at the siege of St. Laurens des Mortiers, dated Nov. 11, 1435, contained the names of R. Bardoulf, and Will. Pistail. Qu. were these the originals of Shakespeare's Bardolph and Pistol?

VESPASIAN.—The March number of Current Notes, p. 27, notices the discovery of a gold coin of Vespasian at Inveresk; the legend on the reverse, reading COS ITER TR. POT. Last month, another of identically the same type, and in fine condition, was dug up on the site of a camp near Hawick. The fact of these two coins being discovered within three weeks, in different parts of Scotland, appears to be deserving of note.

Edinburgh. BARRON GRAHAME, F.S.A., Scotland.

STONE CARVING IN GLASGOW CATHEDRAL.

Your Correspondent's notice in Current Notes, p. 39, of the curious corbel in Brechin cathedral, reminds me of a stone carving in one of the crypts of the cathedral at Glasgow; and at this time when the north-landers are apparently about to repair their beautiful church, it may not be altogether useless to caution them not to deal too carelessly with the fragmentary stones lying in the crypts, now wisely left there for inspection, and perhaps might be so placed, that visitors might study them with more convenience.

The stone, of which the enclosed is a correct sketch—

has been noticed by the Rev. R. S. Hawker, in Current Notes, 1855, p. 42, where he with great probability supposes it to represent evil spirits preying on a soul in purgatory. I only regret, that the carving alone can convey the frightful expression of the countenance of the unhappy victim.

What the destination and object of this singular fragment may have been, it is difficult to determine; it is probable, however, that some of the readers of your periodical may be able to inform me.

T. H. PATTISON.

NOTES BY A NUMISMATIST.

ROMAN MINT AT ARLES CALLED CONSTANTINA.

In the Sale Catalogue of the Collection of the late Mr. H. P. Borrell, of Smyrna, to lot 834, consisting of twenty-five varieties of third brass coins of the period of the Constantine Family, is the following note—

On one of the coins of Fausta, the exergual or mint letters are CONS. The Baron Marchant remarked a similar example, which he thought singular, because Fausta died before Byzantium was called Constantinople; but the late Mr. Borrell, in his numismatic correspondence with the writer, expressed an opinion that these coins were struck at Arles; for Le Beau, in his History of the Lower empire, expressly tells us that in 316, Constantine visited Gaul, and having conferred many benefits upon the City of Arles, it took the name of Constantine in gratitude to its benefactor; moreover, Constantine Junior, the eldest son of Constantine and Fausta, was born there in the same year, or fourteen years before Byzantium was called Constantinople. As to these coins having been struck in her honour, *after* her death, except indeed by her sons, that is not probable.

The desire to direct attention to this note, has induced me to transcribe it, in order to avail myself of the occasion to add, that I have recently obtained a coin of Crispus, of the same module, with precisely the same letters on the exergue of the reverse—a discovery, which in my opinion, goes far undoubtedly to corroborate the probability of the hypothesis here suggested.

ST. ANDREW PENNY OF EGBERT, KING OF WESSEX.

Among the numismatic treasures of the Anglo-Saxon period in the National Collection, is a penny assigned to Egbert, king of Wessex, the first so called sole monarch of England. The coin having on the obverse, the portrait of the king, with the legend ECGBEORHT ·RE, and on the reverse, the legend + SCS ANDREAI is engraved in Hawkins' Silver Coins of England, plate XII., fig. 158; and at p. 55, it is simply described type 7, without comment.

The peculiarity, however of the legend on the reverse, induced Mr. Haigh to suggest that as the cathedral of Rochester is dedicated to St. Andrew, the coin was probably minted at that city after the battle of Ellandene in 823, when Egbert routed the Mercians, and followed up his victory by the conquest of the tributary kingdom of Kent.

Mr. Haigh's hypothesis it must be observed, rests entirely on the assumption that the name of St. Andrew bears relation to the city in which the coin was struck; but, even assuming that fact as a basis of classification, it must be borne in mind that the cathedral of Wells in Somersetshire was *also* dedicated to St. Andrew; and in reference to that fine old structure, that it was built by Ina, king of the West Saxons, and that several other of the West Saxon kings endowed it. It may therefore be fairly presumed, that as Wells was situated within the original territories of Egbert, the coin in question is much more likely to have been struck there, than at Rochester, a city that was only acquired by conquest, in the twenty-fourth year of the reign of the monarch whose effigy and name it bears.

May 9. M. B.

NOTES ON THE AUTHOR OF WAVERLEY.

I have been again much gratified by perusing the second letter of Sir Walter Scott, printed in Current Notes, pp. 21, 22.* Mr. Ellis presented to me, the copy of the Poems by Bedingfeld and Pickering, which I still possess. Probably, the most attractive piece in the volume is the fragment of Scottish Song, said to have been written by the latter, beginning—

Keen blaws the wind o'er Donnocht head;

it attracted the notice of Burns, who observed he would have given ten pounds to have been the author. About 1842, several letters passed between the late Captain Charles Gray and myself on this subject, whence an abstract may be seen at p. 373, of the Book of Scottish Song, printed for Blackie and Son, at Glasgow, in 1843. The lyric is there printed with some additional lines by my correspondent. George Pickering was born in or about 1758, at Simonburn, in Northumberland. In 1777, he was clerk to Mr. Davidson, solicitor in Newcastle, and shortly after, had the management of the Stamp-Office for Northumberland, Newcastle and Berwick; but being unfortunate, he quitted the north of England, and after residing some time in Norfolk, in 1798 he went abroad. Twenty-five years afterward, he returned to Newcastle, and resided with his sister, at Chimney-Mills, where he died in 1826. He was buried toward the west corner of the churchyard at Lamesley, in the County of Durham, where a stone bears this inscription—

Sacred to the Memory of
GEORGE PICKERING,
Son of
GEORGE PICKERING, OF SIMONBURN,
who departed this life, 28th July, 1826,
Aged 68 years.
Erected by his sister ELIZABETH PICKERING,
from motives of true affection to her
much beloved and esteemed brother.

Every communication written by Sir Walter Scott possesses to me great attraction, and I look forward with much interest to the letters which will appear in Current Notes, connected with his membership of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Society of Antiquaries, and the Border Minstrelsy. I am also glad to perceive Mr. Maidment contributing to Current Notes; like Mr. David Laing, of the Signet Library, Edinburgh, what he has done in the field of Scottish Literary Antiquities, awakens the desire that he would do still more. His letter is valuable, and has my cordial approval as to Scott being the author of the Waverley Novels. As a further proof of the correctness of his views on this point, I may relate what Mr. Ellis, of Otterburn, told me himself.

On Sept. 25, 1812, Mr. Scott, for he was not then a baronet, visited Mr. Ellis, at Otterburn.* He was on his way to Rokeby, and occupied in the composition of his poem of that name. Mrs. Scott and two children were with him, and they remained at Otterburn for one night only. Next morning Mr. Ellis accompanied his distinguished guest on the road through Woodburn, when they walked over the Roman station of Habitancum, commonly called Risingham, and ascending the hill to the south-east, they saw the figure of Robin of Redesdale sculptured on the face of a huge stone, which Scott examined with great attention. The result of the observations made that morning, may be seen in Rokeby. Subsequently, when the stone bearing the figure was

* If, in Current Notes, p. 14, I was mistaken in the observation relative to the Lines on North Tyne, I was led to the error from Scott's mention of Drayton, to whose principal work, the Marriage of the Coquet and Alwine has direct reference, and none whatever to the lines in question. I also overlooked Mr. Fenwick's tract, and now thank E. H. A., for the light he has thrown upon the subject.

* To this visit I have alluded more particularly in the History of the Battle of Otterburn, now in the press.

broken, Mr. Ellis communicated all the particulars to Mr. Scott, to which the latter replied, dealing out some sarcastic remarks on the perpetrator of the deed. Nothing more on this matter transpired till 1819, when on the publication of Ivanhoe, Mr. Ellis by referring to Scott's letter, detected towards the close of the Introductory Epistle to that novel, clear and most conclusive proof that he alone was the author.

In these early days, I well remember with what avidity, I read every work that came from the hand of the Great Minstrel. After perusing all his poetry to which I had access, and duly weighing in my own mind, the writer's remarkable genius, on reading the novels, I had not the slightest doubt, they emanated from the same source. In his prose fictions, Scott commanded a wider stage for the performance of his dramatis personæ, introducing many peculiar characters who became known to him among his own countrymen, and who were suitable for a novel, though unfit for a poem. But the same careful individuality was in each preserved—the same creative power every where evident; the effective grouping together of all ranks, and the appropriate names employed—the striking force of the descriptive portions, and above all, in every instance, the complement and framing of a tale that every reader could comprehend, were not to be mistaken. In short, judging from what I saw of current literature, my opinion was that no other individual of the time could have produced them.

Retrospectively glancing over the circumstance of Scott's frequent denial of being the author, we ought to remember, that he was not only possessed of profound sagacity, but that he was a very proud man. In his day, none could better fathom the human mind both in its strength and weakness, and being aware how public curiosity becomes excited in proportion to the impenetrable silence with which a great secret is kept, this very point told most effectively on the popularity of these works of fiction. Again, as he himself said, he was by birth, a gentleman, and if it was openly avowed he wrote novels, the circumstance might detract from his dignity. In this respect, he was not alone, for about the commencement of the seventeenth century, a still greater man, alluding to the plays he had written, which ultimately crowned him with immortal honour, observed—

> Thence comes it that my name receives a brand,
> And almost thence my nature is subdued
> To what it works in, like the dyer's hand:

so, the dread of such debasement undoubtedly influenced Scott to keep his own counsel when he wrote the Novels; and he seems to have made up his mind to repel most pointedly every attempt of prying impertinence to get beyond him. When his position in a business point of view rendered longer concealment impossible, he gave way; but had this not occurred, and had it not been that those works had then acquired a world-wide fame, the probability is, that he had never confessed the authorship; and when he mildly allowed the mask to be withdrawn, his unfading laurels were already won—they encircled the venerable temples and white hairs of that old man, whom to have seen was almost worth a king's ransom, and who hath left behind him a lesson impressive as Solomon's of the vanity of terrestrial things.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, May 9. ROBERT WHITE.

Scott's having abandoned poetical description for prose narrative, as a wider field for display of character appears never to have led to any attempt of a drama for theatrical representation, of which it would seem he entertained some dread. On the rebuilding of Drury Lane Theatre, among other projects of the proprietary for points of attractive advertisement, was one of obtaining at any cost, a play from the Northern Bard; and Elliston was deputed to make the application; it failed wholly. Scott in January, 1812, after five years gratuitous service as a clerk of Session entered upon the salary attached of 1300*l.* a-year; and might therefore be considered as less anxious to profit by the produce of his pen, but on the contrary, it appears to have been a settled principle that led to the avoidance of all association with the drama, as the autograph letter addressed to Elliston, and now before the writer, is conclusive evidence.

Sir,—I am favour'd with your letter, and am much obliged to you for the polite expressions it contains, as well as for your supposing me capable of advancing in any degree, the dramatic art, or the advantage of its professors. As I am very fond of the Stage, which is the only public amusement that I ever indulge in, I have at times, from my own inclination, or at the solicitation of friends, partial like yourself, to my other productions been tempted to consider the subject your letter proposes to me. But upon a mature consideration of my own powers such as they are, and of the probable consequences of any attempt to write for the Theatre, which might fall short of complete success, I have come to the determination of declining every overture of the kind, of which I have received several.

I therefore have only to express my regret that it is not in my power to assist your exertions, which I have no doubt, the public favour, and your own talents, will render successful without such aid, and I am very glad, I have been indirectly the means of supplying new subjects for your Theatre, and am very much,

Sir, your obedient servant,

Edinb. January 6, 1812. WALTER SCOTT.

IPSWICH TOWN ARMORIAL INSIGNIA.

I enclose drawings, with rubbings of the arms of Ipswich, from monumental brasses in the churches of that Town.

The arms on these examples are differently represented, and yet not one is in accordance with the description of the coat particularized in Clarencieux's confirmation in 1561; if that record was correctly

copied, of this fact however, no means of ascertaining remains, as the original is believed to have been long since destroyed. Harvey's confirmation, printed wholly in Current Notes, October, 1855, p. 80; describes the lion rampant as regardant. Possibly, it would be of interest to notice this addition to the Curiosities of Heraldry, and therefore, with the drawings and rubbings, have attached an heraldic description of each shield.

I. Arms of Ipswich, from the brass in the church of St. Mary Tower; of Thomas Drayle, Portman, 1500.

Per pale, three demi-lions guardant in pale, joined to as many demi-hulks of ships.

I.

II.

II. Arms of Ipswich, from the brass in the church of St. Mary Key; of Thomas Pownder, 1525.

The Pownder brass in mode of emblazonment bears conclusive evidence of its foreign fabrication. Only one demi-hull appears on the shield, and the coat is reversed, in order apparently to turn the lion towards the centre of the subject, a perversion not unfrequently assumed in Flemish, German, and other continental heraldry.

III. Arms of Ipswich, also in the church of St. Mary Key, on the brass of Henry Toolye, 1551.

Party per pale; on the dexter side, a lion rampant guardant; on the sinister, three demi-hulls joined to the impaled line.

The arms as described in the confirmation by William Harvey Clarencieux, August 22, 1561, are—

Party per pale gules and azure; in the first, a lion rampant regardant, gold armed and langued azure; in the second, three demy-botes of the third.

III.

IV.

IV. Arms of Ipswich, in the church of St. Clement, on the brass of John Toye, 1583.

Per pale; in the dexter, a lion rampant; on the sinister, three demi-hulls joined to the impaled line.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. Howard.

COLONIAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

A letter dated Melbourne, Feb. 16, affords some intimation of the progress of the public free library of Australia.

On Monday, the 11th inst., the public library was opened by his Excellency, the officer administering the Government. It is a free library, and we owe its existence to the exertions of Judge Barry, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court. He took the Legislature in time when the revenue had increased from less than 300,000*l.*, to more than three millions, and people thought it never would come to an end. He thus obtained money for the building, and for about three thousand volumes. Last year, there was a vote for 3000*l.*, but it lapsed for want of money. This year, that sum is again on the estimates, and as the colony is flourishing, and the revenue is improving, the amount will no doubt be voted and paid. The best colonial library is at Cape Town, but an annual payment for admission is required. The library at Quebec, is also good, but that is not free. Ours will be emphatically a public institution, and I fully expect that in eight or ten years, it will be the finest colonial library under the British Crown. That of the Legislative Council also presents the beginning of a splendid library—but that will of course be confined to the members of both Houses. We adopt the American custom of a joint library instead of the English custom of a library for each House.

FEMININE DELUSION.

The enclosed letter was written by Lord Eldon, in reply to one addressed to him by the aged wife of a Yorkshire Vicar, whose husband had long been engaged in a vexatious Tithe suit in Chancery. The request was to aid her by moving on the slow machinery of that very slow court—she, poor woman, thought that as she was a native of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and had known and visited the Scott family there, the member of that family who then occupied the Woolsack, would for the sake of Newcastle, etc., use his influence in some powerful manner, to drive on Chancery to decide the case. To enable her husband to carry on the suit, her private property had been mortgaged, and the family had suffered greatly in consequence of the protracted litigation—she therefore in the anguish of her mind wrote the letter to the Chancellor, which drew from him the enclosed reply.

Madam—I have received your letter. With respect to making any application to Lord Lyndhurst, it cannot be made by me; I am sure that as a Judge, he would not permit me to have any conversation with him, relative to a cause which may come judicially before him; and having myself been long in a judicial situation, I could not permit myself to speak to him upon such a subject.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has nothing to do with anything respecting Tithes. Lord Lyndhurst is the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, who, with other Judges hears Tithe Causes, but no Judge will permit himself to be told anything respecting a cause but in open Court.

I am, Madam,
Your obedt. Servt.
Eldon.

I may add, that the dilatoriness of the reverend gen-

tleman's country solicitors, was the cause of much delay; but as soon after the receipt of Lord Eldon's letter, the cause was decided, the old lady fancied her missive had had its effect, and thought he had after all looked to the matter in some way, and had somehow done something to frighten the legal men to bring it to a close.

Grammar School, Norton. WILLIAM R. BELL.

ANGELS VISITS.—Campbell wrote the Pleasures of Hope when very young, and he may possibly have been indebted to Blair's Grave for the expression—

> Like Angel visits few and far between;

yet both Blair and Campbell may have derived the sentiment from an earlier writer, John Norris, who died in 1711, in whose Transient Delights, occur these lines—

> How fading are the joys we doat upon
> Like apparitions seen and gone:
> But those which soonest take their flight
> Are the most exquisite and strong—
> Like Angel visits short and bright,
> Mortality's too weak to bear them long.

Woburn, May 2. B. B. W.

AMADIS DE GAULA.

A friend of mine in Spain has sent me notes of some additional editions of the Spanish romances, which I communicate as supplementary to those forwarded in February last. These editions are all in folio, and I hope those gentlemen in England, who have other editions will give an account of them in your Current Notes.

I.—IV. Amadis de Gaula,	Sevilla 1531, 1535, 1539, 1565, 1586.
——	Medina del Campo, 1545.
——	Lavagna, 1551.
V. Esplandian,	Toledo, 1521.
——	Salamanca, 1525.
——	Burgos, 1587.
VIII. Lisuarte de Grecia,	Sevilla, 1548, 1550.
——	No place or date.
IX. Amadis de Grecia,	Valencia, 1582.
——	No place or date.
X. Florisel de Niquea,	Sevilla, 1546.
——	Saragoza, 1568.
——	Tarragona, 1584.
XII. Silves de la Selva,	Sevilla 1549.

Another friend writes that in the library at Vienna, are the following editions:—

I.—IV. Amadis de Gaula,	Sevilla, 1586.
VIII. Lisuarte de Grecia,	Zaragoça, 1587.
XI. Rogel de Grecia,	Salamanca, 1551.
XII. Silves de la Selva,	Salamanca, 1551.

Ticknor quotes the edition of Esplandian, Burgos, 1587; and Mr. Julius, the German translator of Ticknor, notices the edition of Florisel de Niquea, Tarragona, 1584, as having been seen by him,

Some curious questions arise from the dates of these editions, which I hope to discuss in a future letter.

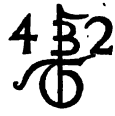
Middle Hill. T. PHILLIPPS.

EARLY MERCHANT'S MARKS.

The merchants of the middle ages, however wealthy, were not permitted to assume heraldic insignia, and thus rival the dignity of the gentry, they therefore universally adopted symbolic devices, as marks to distinguish their bales of merchandise, and these marks are at times found delineated on shields, resembling in form those upon which the heralds emblazoned their representative fancies. Hence many an old tomb and church window is found decorated with frequently a very ingenious amalgamation of threaded forms and tracery, at times so complex as almost to baffle elucidation.

The enclosed inscription and merchant's mark is a mural memorial brass, 1586, in the church of St. Mary Magdalene, in Old Fish Street. No name is mentioned, but I presume it commemorates Thomas Berry, Fishmonger, who "gave a messuage in Southwark, called the Red Cross, with its appurtenances to the poor of the parish for ever."

> In God the Lord put all your truste
> Repente your former wicked waies
> Elizabeth our Quene most iuste
> Blesse her o Lorde in all her daies
> So Lord encrease good Councelers
> And preachers off his holie worde
> Mislike off all papistes desiers
> O Lord cut them off with thy sworde
> How small soever the gifte shalbe
> Thanke God for him who gave it thee



> XII penie loves to XII poore foulkes
> Geve everie sabothe day for aye.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

FIERY BULL.—Who was the person referred to as "the Fiery Bull of Colchester," in the following title—

> Ten necessary Queries touching the Personal Treatie; also a right description of a Cavalier; with some drops to quench the Fiery Bull of Colchester, by JAMES TASWELL, a True Lover of King, Parliament, Truth and Peace, 1648.

I have read the copy at the British Museum, but that does not shew who was meant by the Fiery Bull?

May 13. ENQUIRER.

As the tract is evidently written by a royalist, possibly the designation of 'the Fiery Bull' applies to Fairfax, who refused all personal treaty with the besieged commanders.

BOLINGBROKE'S MISTRESS.—On what authority is it stated in Current Notes, 1855, p. 64, that Lady Bath had been Bolingbroke's Mistress? Lady Bath was a Miss Gumley, daughter of John Gumley, Esq., of Isleworth; a large fortune, she was the sister of the wife of Francis Colman, Minister at Florence; and Pope's verses upon her imply the very reverse of any *levity* of character. C.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXVI.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [JUNE, 1856.

WHO WROTE THE WAVERLEY NOVELS?

When nearly five-and-twenty years have elapsed since the decease of the reputed author of the Waverley Novels, the stillness of the grave is at length disturbed by the appearance of some uselessly detractive inquiries, the purport of which is professedly to prove that Scott's brother Thomas Scott was the writer of The Antiquary, a considerable contributor to other novels, and that many admirable characters and delineations were the every day productions of his singularly gifted wife, Bessie Scott; and that Walter Scott, simply conducted them through the press, and had no claim, or at best only an assumed one, to the being considered the author. These inquiries have been submitted to the discernment of the admirers of Sir Walter Scott, in a pamphlet entitled—

Who Wrote the Waverley Novels? being an Investigation into certain Mysterious Circumstances attending their production, and an Inquiry into the Literary Aid which Sir Walter Scott may have received from other persons, 1856, pp. 88.

The bases on which Mr. Fitzpatrick founds this investigation, are the *on dit* printed in the Morning Chronicle, May 23, 1817—Mr. Walter Scott is said to be the author of the critique in the 'Tales of my Landlord' in the Quarterly Review, and it is insinuated in the concluding paragraph, that his brother is the writer of the novels which have made so strong an impression on the public mind.* Also, 'the very remarkable letter' as Mr. Fitzpatrick terms it, that is said to have appeared in the Quebec Herald, July 15, 1820. The letter dated York, observe not New York, Dec. 12, 1818, commences—

With respect to these new publications, Rob Roy, &c., I have no hesitation in saying I believe them to be the production of the Scotts. I say the Scotts, because Mr. Thomas Scott (who wrote the principal part of them) was often assisted by Mrs. Scott, and the works were generally revised by his brother Walter before going to press. "The Antiquary" I can answer for particularly, because Mr. Thomas Scott told me himself that he wrote it, a very few days after it appeared in this country. Any person who had the least intimacy with the paymaster would at once recognise him as the author of these celebrated works. The same native humour, the same cast of expression, and that intimate acquaintance with Scottish manners and the Scottish annals, which are almost in every page of those works, could be traced in his conversation by any person of the least observation. Besides this, I have often heard Mrs. Scott describe the very originals from whom the principal characters are drawn. The Antiquary himself was an intimate acquaintance of the paymaster; his name I have now forgotten, but he lived in Dumfries, and that finely drawn character, Dominie Sampson was an old college acquaintance. Flora M'Ivor's character was written by Mrs. Scott herself. I have seen several of the manuscripts, in Mr. Scott's possession, of his other works, but I do not recollect seeing any of the novels in manuscript except the Antiquary. I am pretty certain that it is his own handwriting.

The letter has been adopted at length, simply to aver that it is wholly untrue. Walter's younger brother Thomas was the helter-skelter devil-may-care fellow of the lot, his rattling loquacious vivacity, at all times seemed conclusive that he alone monopolised all the genius and spirit of the family, while Walter was apparently of a dull temperament, his youth did not exhibit the dawn even, of the sunshine of the after-day that was to eternise the distinction of his family, and to render familiar as household words to future generations the characters and language of his Scottish descriptive poems and novels. Those who entertain any doubts as to Walter Scott being the author of the Waverley Novels, should first learn the peculiarities in position and disposition of that singularly extraordinary man and writer, before they too readily adopt a false conclusion. Nothing of Thomas Scott remains in his writing to establish any or the smallest claims to his being a contributor wholly or in part to the Waverley Novels; doubtless the persons who figured in the novels, were as well known to Thomas as to Walter, and when they became public property by their peculiarities being graphically delineated in the printed novels, 'the Scotts' pleasurably stated that they too knew them personally. Let this also be remembered, that Thomas Scott, was a reckless *bon vivant*, and as regards the interests of the family, it was well the Atlantic divided them—his excesses for the last four or five years of his life precluded his holding the pen with any steadiness, and Bessie Scott at her desk, was more often busied on the official papers of her husband, than in writing letters, however

* Investigation, p. 50.—The admission here said to have been made by Scott, is repudiated by his flat denial that Thomas Scott wrote the whole or any part of the novels; and again in a letter to Richardson, Jan. 18, 1819, Scott, in reference to the attempt made by the wife of one of the Edinburgh judges to ascertain the author of the Waverley Novels, wrote—"I gave in dilatory defences, under protestation, to add and eik; in plain words I denied the charge; and as she insisted to know who else could write these novels, I suggested Adam Ferguson, as a person having all the information and capacity necessary for that purpose." Ibid. p. 30. The fact was, there were so many concomitant circumstances all tending to prove Scott the author of the novels, that in the face of his broad denial, it was difficult to know in what manner to treat his assertions.

joyously indited, to her brother-in-law, the now questioned author of Waverley.* Yet, it cannot be denied, that much of what is now passing was originally promulgated by the assertions and prevarications of Walter Scott. When the natural furor of his intellect streamed forth, he found it difficult to restrain himself within ordinary bounds, he wrote, and once for all, if he attempted to amend, he injured what he had written, the stream became more muddy than before, and once printed, the subject was rarely honoured by himself with a re-perusal—no matter whatever his after professions of editorial revision were, like the cobbler's wife that went unshod, his writings lacked the promised revisal, however they might be called for or suggested. It was not in him to bear the being thwarted; in matters of business his probity was ever unquestionable, but in literary points, he held all assertions as fictions, he could disguise truth in a joke, and reduce a moral axiom to a bon-mot.

His earlier poems from their novelty were highly attractive, and his Lady of the Lake carried off the public acclaim by storm, but

No morning sun lasts a whole day;

the public appetite cloyed, and Rokeby, published early in 1813, was comparatively a failure: its success was unequivocally acknowledged to be greatly inferior to the Lady of the Lake. It was even said that Rokeby was only entitled to notice from its having the name of the author on the title page. The Bridal of Triermain, without his name, followed in March, 1813, and passed wholly unnoticed. He determined on abandoning poetry for prose, and by publishing anonymously, or under a pseudonyme, divert the public attention from himself, and in the autumn of 1813, having found the fragment of Waverley that had been thrown aside since 1805, the manuscript having at that time been unfavourably commented on by a critical friend, he finished it according to his own conception, and the following is Scott's own version of its appearance:—

Waverley was published in 1814, and as the title page was without the name of the author, the work was left to win its way in the world without any of the usual recommendations. Its progress was for some time slow; but after the first two or three months, its popularity increased in a degree which must have satisfied the expectations of the author had these been far more sanguine than he ever entertained.

Great anxiety was expressed to learn the name of the author, but on this no authentic information could be attained. My original motive for publishing the work anonymously was the consciousness that it was an experiment on the public taste, which might very probably fail, and therefore there was no occasion to take on myself the personal risk of discomfiture. For this purpose, considerable precautions were used to preserve secrecy. My old friend and schoolfellow, Mr. James Ballantyne, who printed these novels, had the exclusive task of corresponding with the author, who thus had not only the advantage of his professional talents, but of his critical abilities. The original manuscript, or as it is technically called *copy* was transcribed by confidential persons under Mr. Ballantyne's eye, nor was there an instance of treachery during the many years in which these precautions were resorted to, although various individuals were employed at different times. Double proof sheets were regularly printed off. One was forwarded to the author by Mr. Ballantyne, and the alterations which it received by his hand, were copied upon the other proof sheet for the use of the printers, so that even the corrected proofs of the author were never seen in the printing office, and thus the curiosity of such eager inquirers as made the most minute investigation was entirely at fault.

Among other unfounded reports, it has been said that the copyright was during the book's progress through the press, offered for sale to various booksellers in London at a very inconsiderable price. This was not the case. Messrs. Constable and Cadell who published the work, were the only persons acquainted with the contents of the publication, and they offered a large sum for it, while in the course of printing, which however was declined, the author not choosing to part with the copyright.

Byron, in a letter to Murray, dated July 24, 1814, wrote—"Waverley is the best and most interesting novel I have redde since—I don't know when." The reviewers, notwithstanding all Scott's endeavours to evade detection, were however on the right scent—"We have heard this romance ascribed to a bard of the first order, and there seems to be sufficient internal evidence to warrant a belief that the report is accurate."* The fact appears to have escaped Mr. Fitzpatrick, that the son of Joseph Strutt the antiquary, then and since loudly asserted Scott produced Waverley from the manuscripts which his father had submitted to him for perusal. One among the many reasons which are urged why Scott was not the author of the Waverley Novels, is, that at Abbotsford he was hospitable in the highest degree, and so fully entered into all their field diversions and other amusements, that he himself seemed more the votary of pleasure than as one solicitous of the opportunity of retirement, for his literary avocations, yet this apparent waste of time was but assumed, and intended to baffle even the closest observer, for while Waverley was passing through the press, in his letter to James Bal-

* A correspondent to Current Notes writes—My mind has long ago been made up on the question, and certainly I should dislike being drawn into any controversy on the point at issue, considering that such a step would swallow up most unprofitably very much precious time.

Scott possessed marvellous facility in writing, and when we learn he kept at it, four, five, or six hours a day, what he did is only consistent with such labour. He was one of a remarkable family. The mother, now deceased, of an intimate friend of mine, was full cousin to Sir Walter. She had borne him when he was a child in her arms, and though she was far advanced in life, and by no means was either a learned, or what is called a book read woman, yet I have heard her relate anecdote and family occurrences in such a copious yet perfectly correct manner, that it was truly wonderful. A short-hand writer might have taken down and printed every word she spoke, and the most fastidious proof-reader could not possibly have improved what she said, or detected a single false or redundant word in the whole.

* New Monthly Magazine, Sept. 1814, p. 156.

lantyne, dated Sept. 2, 1813, he thus bitterly complained of these obstructions—"My temper is nearly worn to a hair's breadth. The intruder of yesterday hung on me till twelve to-day. When I had just taken my pen, he was relieved like a sentry leaving guard, by two other lounging visitors."

Scott's Pegasus was ever on the wing; from his first placing his foot on the soil of Abbotsford, it was with him a castle in the air—an aërial vision that imbued even his day and night dreams, it engulphed all his gains, and was the ever greedy insatiate cormorant that was constantly craving: his building, purchasing and planting, was the impelling power to constant exertion; he could not hesitate to reflect, and his castellated creation, while it drew from his labours a sum exceeding 50,000*l.*, rendered, as in most similar ventures, but a poor requital; the produce of the estate being, it is said, never more than 700*l.* per annum. The pen, though dipped in liquid gold, could not write off or cancel the every-day demand upon his energies—a partner or participator in the printing-office of the Ballantynes, he became involved in their embarrassments, the whirl of events led to his forestalling coming profits on writings, only projected not written, bills were drawn, frequently on maturity, only to be renewed, and counterpoised by similar accommodations on the other side. Something had to be prepared, without his name, if the work was not sufficiently attractive with it—hence the application of every reserve and endeavour to preclude discovery—but the material, the flow of writing and the spirit was the same, and those to whom he asserted he was not the author were not convinced. To remove their scepticism, he has said that other persons were the real Simon Pure; driven at bay by friends who were not thus to be bamboozled, he has persisted; till unwilling to offend, matters passed on, those who knew him ceased to question, since no satisfactory result followed, and he was but too glad to escape by any one assuming the position, to which none save himself was justly entitled.

Scott's Lord of the Isles was announced in November, 1814, as the Prince of the Isles, to be ready at Christmas; it was published in quarto in January, 1815, but he again found that not even the name of Bruce could compensate in the public estimation the want of what had been the most captivating charm of his earliest productions—the development of new powers, and styles of versification. And in the following month, February, not only was a cheaper edition, in 8vo., announced, but it was soon followed by Guy Mannering, or the Astrologer, by the Author of Waverley, of which there were announcements in December, 1814. Mr. Fitzpatrick observes,—Scott in his Introduction to Guy Mannering says that he looked about for a name and a subject, and from this observation we may infer that such was his invariable habit when commencing a fictitious narrative. The practice is, I believe, usual among authors.* Guy Mannering, however, notwithstanding his reference to Mr. French's "Parallel Passages," Mr. Fitzpatrick seems to consider as not Scott's—The parties who probably sent the rough sketch for filling up and revision, were alone competent to write its historical introduction.* With the Parallel Passages before him, it is surprising Mr. Fitzpatrick should thus run a tilt against all apparent probability. Mr. French, who seems fully aware of the ungracious position he had assumed, writes:—

> Guy Mannering is said to have been written with extreme rapidity, occupying the author only a few weeks in its composition; and this circumstance has given colour to the assertion that Scott is not the exclusive author; but when it is seen that the novel is in reality only an adaptation—in the same way in which modern English dramas are adapted from the French—the wonder caused by the rapid execution vanishes. But, another still remains! Who can fail to marvel at the masterly skill with which crude materials have been worked into one of the most delicious tales in modern literature?

The answer to this is sufficiently prompt and conclusive—None but those who would detract from his transcendent merit. Scott, like Raffaelle and Michael Angelo who painted from nature, did not disdain to borrow ideas from the most crude and inherent objects, hence in after ages the Madonnas of the one charm and delight the observer, while the Last Judgment of the other, enforces the grandeur of awe and reverence.

Scott, in the introduction to Guy Mannering, details some of the sources from which the material was derived, but as Mr. French observes—there does not appear the most distant hint that the author had borrowed his plot from the events of real life. That omission, Mr. French purports to supply by Parallel Passages from the Memoirs of an Unfortunate Young Nobleman, printed in 1743-7, in three volumes, duod., and from the Gentleman's Magazine, 1744, in juxta-position with others from Guy Mannering. With this course no one can quarrel, for to what after all does it amount? That Scott read for a subject, and passing the matter through the alembic of his brain, refined it to the gold in which it now appears. But the Memoirs referred to by Mr. French, are not in the library at Abbotsford—there is, however, Fortune's Favourite: containing Memoirs, etc., of Jacobo Anglicano, a Young Nobleman, 1744, 8vo., with this manuscript note by Scott—'The Annesley Case introduced into Peregrine Pickle.' Here, then, is the source, and not the Memoirs, as supposed by Mr. French; the Gentleman's Magazine is also in the library, and with Smollett's writings Scott was fully conversant.

It is idle to pursue discussion further. Mr. Fitzpatrick will fail in producing anything to attach establishing claims for his protegées, the Scott's—no simple wreath will be culled by him to set amidst the grass of two uninscribed and forgotten graves, to indicate that genius sleeps below; and the perusal of his Investigation will only impress upon the reader some emotions of

* Investigation, p. 80.

* Investigation, p. 61.

surprise that his good sense was not exercised in discriminating fact from falsehood; and that even Colonel W———'s evidence which Mr. Fitzpatrick considers more striking than Dr. G———'s, goes no further than the suppositious impression that neither Thomas Scott nor his wife wrote any of the novels, but that they assisted their brother in supplying anecdotes and traits of character.* Scott, like the potter, seized the most earthy matter, and skilfully moulding it to the forms his mind indicated, gave to all that beauty, elegance and durability, which will ever create admiration, and ennoble his name among the literary celebrities of the British Empire.

SCOTT'S ALTERATIONS AND CORRECTIONS.

The following memoranda relative to Sir Walter Scott and his works, may be deemed not unworthy of a place in your Current Notes.

The manuscript of Waverley commences with chap. V., and contains somewhat more than half the printed work: it was purchased for forty guineas by James Hall, Esq., brother of Capt. Basil Hall, and by him presented to the Library of the Faculty of Advocates. At the commencement is inserted the following letter from Sir Walter's son-in-law, addressed to Mr. Hall.

Sussex Place, Regent's Park.
May 17, 1850.

My dear Hall.—No Saducee can dare to question the authenticity of your autograph of Waverley. I am fortunate enough to possess the Rob Roy, and even between those two, the hand had changed a good deal. In your manuscript it is exactly as in that of Marmion.

Ever yours, J. G. LOCKHART.

Upon looking over 'the original manuscript' in the well known handwriting of Scott, a person can hardly help smiling at the idea that it was *merely a copy* of Thomas Scott's original, made for the purpose of deception. Such is, I think, one of the charges brought against the reputed author. If it was made with that object, it is the cleverest piece of deception of the kind that ever was manufactured. It is written on differently sized paper, is full of corrections and re-corrections, alterations and interlineations. If any unbiassed person would examine it, as deposited in the library of the Faculty of Advocates, they would indubitably admit that it possesses every appearance of authenticity.

Many of the alterations are not improvements, for instance, Balmawhapple interrupts the Baron's French chanson by striking up—

It's up Glenbarchans braes I gaed,
And ow'r the bent of Killiebrair;
And mony a weary cast I maid
To cùttle† the moor-fools tail.

In a note to the edition revised by the author, Sir Walter tells us this fragment was the induction of Macdonald, the author of the tragedy of Vimonda. The next is his own.

If up there sprang a gude black cock,
To whistle him down wi' a slug in his dock,
And clink him into my lunzie poke,
Right seldom wad I fail.

These lines in the printed edition stand thus—

If up a bonny black cock should spring,
To whistle him down with a slug in his wing,
And strap him on to my lunzie string,
Right seldom would I fail.

The lines substituted are inferior to the original verses, which are coarse but vigorous, and such as might naturally be expected to flow from the vulgar lips of the "horse louper," Laird though he was.

In Scott's Lady of the Lake are these lines—

Foxgloves and night shade, side by side;
Emblems of punishment and pride.

A gentleman who had some difficulty in comprehending the meaning of this passage addressed a letter of enquiry to the author, who thus responded:—

Sir,—I am honored with your letter, and am highly flattered by a gentleman of your classical attainments having found pleasure in my poetical attempts, and having thought any part of them worthy of the beautiful latin dress you have honored my highland damsel with.

I fear I shall lose in your good opinion, by frankly confessing that I am unable to give any satisfactory solution as to the two lines, tho' my attention has been frequently called to them by similar enquiries. My poetry has always passed from the desk to the press in the most hurried manner possible, so that it is no wonder I am sometimes puzzled to explain my own meaning.

In the present case, protesting always that I shall have the benefit of any better explanation which a friendly commentator may find out for me; I incline to think that I must have confused the night-shade with hemlock, used you know, for the execution of criminals, and so far therefore an emblem of punishment; and that the fox-glove from its determined erect figure and decisive colour, might be no bad emblem of pride.

I am afraid this will hardly satisfy my fair admirer, being one degree worse than Bardolph's solution of the word "accommodate."

Indeed, I have sometimes thought of altering or omitting the lines, which are nonsense as they stand, but I have always forgot to do so, and esteem myself fortunate in my negligence, since it has procured me the honor of your correspondence.

I am, sir, your obliged humble servant,
Abbotsford, Melrose, WALTER SCOTT.
October 20, 1812.

These lines, nevertheless, in the revised edition of the Poems, dated Abbotsford, April, 1830, stand as originally printed, without any comment or explanation.

Edinburgh, June 4. JAMES MAIDMENT.

M. Augustine Thierry, the historian of the Conquest of England by the Normans, died in his seventieth year, at Paris, on Thursday, May 22.

* Investigation, pp. 47, 48. † Kittle, *i. e.*, to tickle.

THE CUP AND THE LIP.

Most persons are familiar with the proverb which suggests the uncertainty that intervenes between the cup and the lip, who are not acquainted with its high antiquity, and its supposed origin. According to the Greek mythologers, the person who first experienced a truth, which after him became proverbial, was a king named Ancæus. Lycophron who has expressed the proverb (v. 489.) with his usual perspicuity and simplicity:

ὥς πολλὰ χείλευς καὶ δεπασταίων ποτῶν
μέσῳ κυλίνδει Μοῖρα παμμήστωρ βροτῶν

refers it to an Arcadian hero, Ancæus of Tegea, who was killed by the Calydonian boar. His valour and untimely fate were subjects of lively interest in his native city; and the artist who adorned one of the pediments in the great temple of Minerva Alea at Tegea, with the principal figures belonging to the Calydonian chase, had represented Ancæus in the act of sinking under his wounds, after the hatchet with which he had ineffectually assailed the boar had fallen from his hand.* But Lycophron's Greek commentator censures the poet for confounding two perfectly distinct personages, the one of Tegea, and Ancæus a son of Neptune and Astypalea, and king of the Leleges.† This people, according to Pherecydes,‡ was in possession of the coast of Asia between Ephesus and Phocæa, and of the islands Chios and Samos, before the Ionian migration, and a legend reported by Tzetzes on the authority of an Aristotle who had written a book entitled πέπλοι, placed the scene of the event which gave rise to the proverb in Samos. There Ancæus had planted the vine: but a seer or an oracle had predicted that he should never drink wine from its fruit. When the grapes were ripe, the king pressed a bunch into a cup, and as he raised it to his lips, scoffed at the idle prophecy; the seer replied, πουλὺ μεταξὺ πέλει κύλικος καὶ χείλεος ἄκρον· at the same moment a shout was heard, and tidings came that a boar was ravaging the fields. Laying aside the untasted must, Ancæus rushed forth to encounter the invader, and perished in the conflict.

With regard to the proverb, it can scarcely be doubted, that it belongs to the Samian Ancæus, whose son Samos was said to have given his name to the island: for the prediction which is the basis of the story, had most probably some connexion with that peculiar defect in the quality of the Samian soil, which rendered it unfavourable to the growth of the vine, while the neighbouring islands, as well as the adjacent coast of the continent were celebrated for the excellence of their wines. C. T.

* Pausanias, viii. 45. 7.

† So he is described by Asius (in Pausan. vii. 4. 1. 7.) who does not mention the Carians, as incorrectly stated by Panofka, (Res Samiorum, p. 11.) Strabo himself speaks of the Carians as having inhabited Samos while it was called Parthenia, (xiv. p. 637,) but possibly he only uses the name of Carians, according to a commonly received notion, as equivalent to that of Leleges, without in any way meaning to contradict Pherecydes. ‡ Strabo, xiv. p. 632.

GRANT OF ARMS TO GOLDSMITHS' COMPANY.

The following grant of arms, or rather of crest and supporters, to the Goldsmiths' Company of London, here copied from the original, has never been printed:—

To all and singular as well Nobles and Gentelmen as others to whome these presents shall come, ROBERT COOKE esquier, alias Clarencieulx principall Herehault and Kinge of Armes of the Sowth, Este, and Weste partes of this realme of Englande, from the river of Trent sowthwardes sendeth greetinge.

Whereas auncienty from the beginninge the valiant and vertuous actes of worthie persons have ben comended to the worlde withe sondry monuments and remembrances of theyr good desertes amongst the whiche the chefest and moste usuall hath ben the bearinge of Signes in Shildes called Armes which are evident demonstracions of prowis and valoyr diveraly distributed accordinge to the qualities and deserts of the persons, whiche order as yt was prudently devised in the beginninge to stirre and kindell the hartes of men to the imitacion of vertue and noblenes; even so hathe the same ben and yet is continually observed to th' ende that suche as have don comendable servyce to their Prynce or Contry either in Warre or Peace may bothe receave dewe honor in their lyves and also deryve the same successively to their posteritie after them,

And whereas Kinge Richarde the Seconde in [1393,] the sixtenth yere of his reigne did by his letters patentes, at Westmester, the sixte daye of february in the yere aforesaide, incorporate the men of the arte or mistery of Goldsmiths in the Citie of London, and that they sholde be one perpetuall comunitie and yerely chose fower wardens of the men of the saide comunitie, to oversee rule and dewly governe the saide arte or mistery and all and singular the men of the same forever.

Synce which tyme Kinge Edwarde the fowerth, the thirtieth daye of Maye in [1462,] the seconde yere of his reigne, did not only ratifie and confirme the same, but also gave them dyvers and sondry liberties, as to pleade and be impleaded by the names aforesaid, and that they showlde have a perpetuall succession, and one Comon Seale for the necessary business of the saide art or mistery to serve them for ever, and for that the saide arte or mistery hath of longe tyme borne Armes, yet notwithstandinge for the further honor of the saide arte or mistery they have required me the said Clarencieulx to assigne to these theyr auncient Armes, a Creast and Supporters lawfull to be borne.

In consideracion of theyr worthiness and at the request of Robert Browne gentelman, John Mabbe gentelman, Robert Friar gentelman, and William Denham gentelman, now wardens of the saide arte or mistery, I have, by power and auctoritie to my office annexed and graunted by letters patents under the Greate Seale of Englande; devised ordeyned and assigned to the saide wardens and theyr successors in office and like place, and to all those infranchised of the saide arte or mistery, to these theyr auncient armes, that is to saye—Quarterly, gules and asur, in the first, a leopardes hed; in the seconde, a cuppe between two buckles, golde; the Creaste and supporters hereafter followinge, that is to saye—

Uppon the heaulme on a wreathe golde and gules, issuant out of the clowdes, a demy virgin, her gowne purple, her kertell golde, holdinge in her right hande, a payre of ballance golde in her left hande, a tuche stone mantelled gules,

doubled argent. The supporters, two Unicornes golde mayned, clayed and tayled purple as more playnely apperithe depicted in the margent.

To have and holde the saide Armes Creast and Supporters to the saide wardens and to their successors in like office, and to all the men enfranchised of the saide arte or mistery from tyme to tyme, and they the same to use beare and shewe forever in all places honest for the honor of the said fellowship in shilde, standard, banner, penon, or otherwaies at their lybertie and pleasure without impedyment let or interruption of any person or persons. In witness whereof I have set hereunto my hande and seale of office, the eight daye of November, in the yere of oure Lord God, a thowsand five hundreth seventy and one, and in the thirtenth yere of the reigne of our sovereigne lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God, Queene of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faithe, etc.

ROBERT COOKE *alias* Clarencieux,
Roy Darmes.

The arms emblazoned in the margin are the same as now borne by the Goldsmiths' Company, but later there was a slight change in the colours, which was thus registered:—

Approved and entered in the visitation of London, made 1634. The Unicornes to bee mayned clayed and tayled argent, and the gowne of the creast gules.

HEN. ST. GEORGE, Richmond.

Examples of the Goldsmiths' Company arms occur in sepulchral memorials in the churches of Upminster and Westham, in Essex; and Datchet in Berkshire.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. HOWARD.

DISMEMBERMENT OF POLAND.

The mishaps which have befallen Poland, and continue to repress the energies of that kingdom, were all, in every circumstance, remarkably predicted by one of her greatest monarchs. John Casimir V., in a discourse he made to the States, assembled in 1661, announced to them his resolution of abdicating his royal position in the following impressive words:—

I foresee the misfortunes which threaten our country, and I wish it may please God to make me a false prophet. The Muscovite and the Cossack will join the people who talk the same language with themselves, and will possess themselves of the duchy of Lithuania. The confines of Great Poland will be open to Brandenbourg; and Prussia itself will, either by treaty, or the force of arms, make war upon our territory. In this dismemberment of our estates, the house of Austria will not let slip the opportunity to seize on Cracow. Each of our neighbours will rather chuse, by force of arms, to gain a part of Poland, than to wait to possess, perhaps, some day or other, a kingdom whose ancient privileges defend it from the enterprizes of foreign powers.

He abdicated in 1668, and the Poles of his day were far from believing that the discourse of a prince, who after being a Jesuit, then a cardinal, and ascended the throne, relinquished a crown, and again became a monk in France, where he died; was, in effect, a prophecy that has too truthfully occurred to the very letter.

RARE MARC ANTONIO PRINTS.

The recent sale of the collections of art, belonging to the late Mr. Rogers, presents in its results many points of consideration to collectors, I mean more particularly in reference to the variations in value, at various periods, and as Current Notes appears eminently calculated for embodying and transmitting such memoranda, I submit the following for insertion.

Take one class of prints, the Marc Antonio's, which are all of very rare occurrence, and as those in the collections of Sir M. M. Sykes and Rogers are of equal importance as regards condition, a comparison with the relative prices they produced, the former in May, 1824, and the latter so recently, will not only be interesting, but, to a certain extent, mark the declension, or rise which some of them acquire by a variation in taste, for, urge what we may, there is a fashion in all things.

The numbers at the commencement of each line refer to the print as so numbered by Bartsch in his fourteenth volume. The first column of prices are from the Sykes' Sale Catalogue, the second indicates those from Mr. Christie's Catalogue of the Rogers' Collection.

3	Noah, after Raffaelle	6	0	0	0	16	0
9	Joseph, after the same	5	15	6	0	15	0
10	David, after the same	45	3	0	27	6	0
16	Nativity, after F. Francia	20	0	0	3	15	0
23	Christ in the house of the Pharisee, after Raffaelle or Polidoro?	6	10	0	4	15	0
26	Last Supper, after Raffaelle	8	0	0	0	7	0
32	Descent from the Cross, the same	8	12	6	6	15	0
35	Madonna lamenting, the same	2	3	0	5	15	0
52	Madonna in Clouds	2	5	0	21	0	0
61	Madonna and Child, the same	4	4	0	5	5	0
63	Holy Family, the same	16	16	0	8	0	0
113	Five Saints, the same	15	5	0	1	6	0
116	St. Cecilia, the same	19	19	0	9	10	0
245	Judgment of Paris, the same	6	10	0	33	12	0
247	Mount Parnassus, the same	21	0	0	9	0	0
342–4	Three Angles of the Farnesina	98	14	0	26	15	6
350	Galatea, after Raffaelle	14	14	0	1	2	0
352	The Quos-ego, the same	15	0	0	6	0	0
355	The Amadeus, with border	7	10	0	0	10	6
361	Triumph of Trajan	5	0	0	1	1	0
381	Philosophy, after Raffaelle	6	6	0	12	12	0
382	Poesy, the same	5	5	0	52	10	0
383	Female pouring water, after Francia	0	15	0	3	15	0
417	The Pest, after Raffaelle	5	0	0	1	1	0
432	Young Mother				4	0	0
445	Woman in meditation				6	0	0
464	Two figures, after Michael Angelo	7	15	0	2	2	0
496	Man bearing base of column	6	8	6	6	0	0
514	Marcus Aurelius statue	25	0	0	9	0	0

Thus showing, notwithstanding the changes of appreciation, arising for the most part from individual taste, a depreciation in value in Rogers's sale of one hundred and thirty-five pounds. Priced and named lists, printed so as to bind with the sale catalogues of collections of character and repute, are to collectors of the highest value; I really wish some one would adopt this course, and I should at all times be most happy to subscribe to their cost.

June 10. A COLLECTOR.

BOLINGBROKE'S MISTRESS, MISS GUMLEY.

Your correspondent C., who, in Current Notes, p. 48, asks for the authority on which it is stated, Miss Gumley was the mistress of Henry St. John, subsequently Lord Bolingbroke, may be referred to Mallet's memoir of him, in which it is noticed that at the age which should have been employed in the acquisition of knowledge, St. John seemed more ambitious of being thought the greatest rake about town, and was noted for keeping Miss Gumley, the most expensive prostitute in the kingdom.* Cooke, upon a fuller inquiry and further evidence, descanting upon his irregularities, observes:—

Formed to excel in whatever he might undertake, he soon became as notorious for his excesses as he was afterwards eminent for his genius and learning. By those who could yet remember the court of Charles II., he was compared to Rochester, and he was then proud of the comparison. He left nothing unaccomplished that could increase the similitude; he continued his drunken revels with the most unblushing publicity, and his mistress, Miss Gumley, was the most beautiful courtesan of her day, but St. John was rather captivated by her celébrity than won by her beauty; his attentions were not very assiduous, nor his constancy very remarkable.†

Mallet places the birth of Henry St. John, at Battersea, in 1672; but Cooke, upon Bolingbroke's own statement, dates it Oct. 1, 1678; and his riotous course of dissipation was the theme of his earliest biographer. 'He was much addicted to women, and was apt to indulge himself in late hours, with all those excesses that usually attend them.'‡ It is not apparent whether his *liaison* with Miss Gumley was before his travels upon the continent, which occupied about two years, portions of 1698-1700, or after his marriage in the latter year—a mere marriage of convenience, for he complained that his wife's temper was insufferable, and she that his infidelities were shameless and intolerable: they soon formally separated.§

St. John, upon entering public life, was, by his family interest, returned member for Wootton-Bassett in Wiltshire, and abandoning his Whig connections, joined Harley, a confirmed tory, for whom he then had the greatest esteem. His eloquence in the house gained for him such authority and influence that, to reward his merit, he was April 10,‖ 1704, appointed Secretary-at-War, and of the Marines; his friend Harley having been, a little before, made Secretary of State. Whether from the influence of a former connexion with Miss Gumley, or that it really was subsequent to his marriage, is immaterial, it was easy as Secretary-at-War to elevate her father to the office of a paymaster, and as such we find him. The beauty of Miss Gumley, who became Mrs. Pulteney, afterwards countess of Bath, is recorded in history; and the marriage of her sister with Francis Colman doubtless led to his appointment of Resident Minister in Tuscany. All this is but the history of the day; these extravagances are highly descriptive of the state of society at this period, and disgraceful as they are to the persons concerned, they reflect equal discredit upon the public forbearance which could tolerate and even applaud them. Pope's encomiums amount to nothing, he said civil things of others who were equally loose in principles of honour, and whose names, though emblazoned on the pages of that eminent writer, yet figure in history as dishonourable mistresses of royalty, and the abandoned polluters of the marriage-bed. Z.

* Bolingbroke's Works, 1777, 4to., vol. i. p. 4.
† Memoirs of Lord Bolingbroke, 1835, 8vo., vol. i. p. 11.
‡ Memoirs, 1752, 8vo., p. 33. § Cooke, vol. i. p. 19.
‖ April 20. Memoirs, 1752.

QUAINT EPITAPHS.

On the gravestone of a NATHANIEL CLARKE, in Bisbrooke Churchyard, near Uppingham, below the figure of a waggoner driving "his blessed horses," which, if I remember rightly, had been coloured, are the following lines—

Here lies the body of NATHANIEL CLARKE,
Who never did no harm in the light, or in the dark;
But by his blessed horses taken great delight,
And often travelled with them, by day and by night.

The epitaph commencing—Man's life is like a winter's day, quoted in the last volume of Current Notes, p. 64, is with a few verbal alterations, also found in Crowland Abbey churchyard.

Very recently, the following has been placed in Whittlesea churchyard:—

Weep not for me, my dearest dear;
I am not dead, but buried here.
With patience wait, prepare to die,
And then you'll surely come to I.

Eldernell, June 2. H. I. L.

TEMPLE BAR.—Townley and Fletcher, the adherents of the Pretender, were executed on Kennington Common, July 30, 1746, and their heads, as those of traitors, according to the very rare print, were exposed to public contempt upon Temple-bar on August 2. When were they removed thence?

Salford, June 12. T. F.

One fell from its unenviable position on March 31, 1772; the other, according to a newspaper—Yesterday, (Friday, Feb. 26, 1773,) about one o'clock, the head, which was upon Temple-bar, was blown off by the high wind, and fell upon one of the sedan chairs standing at the bottom.

BELFRY RHYMES, CORNWALL.

The following lines in Calstock Church, were procured for me, at some trouble, by a friend to whom I am greatly indebted.

Penzance, June 2. HENRY WILLIAMS.

We ring the quick to church, the dead to grave.
Good is our use, such usage let us have.
Who swears, or curse, or in a cholerick mood
Quarrels or strike altho' he draw no blood;
Who wears his hat, or spur, or turns a bell,
Or by unskillful handling mars a peal,
Lett him pay Sixpence for each single crime,
'Twill make him cautious against another time.
So when the bells are ceased then let us sing,
God bless our Holy Church, God save the King.

These bells were cast, and the tower new leaded, in the year 1773.

JOHN MOON, JOHN HUNN, Churchwardens.

DE ORIGINE VITÆ ET MORTIS.

Qu a d tr fu str
os nguis irus isti de nere avit.
H sa m Chr vul l

TRANSLATION.

cur f w d dis and pain;
A sed iend rought eath ease
bles fr b br and again.

GLASS WINDOW RHYMES.

On the left bank of the river Wharf, and on the north-east corner of Harewood bridge, on the line of road from Leeds to Harrogate, stood recently an interesting Elizabethan roadside inn, about which the landscape was very picturesque. The cleanliness and neatness of this inn, with its small low rooms, and the excellent creature comforts at all times to be found there, caused it to be much visited by small parties on fishing excursions to its neighbourhood, and a place of resort for many of the respectable inhabitants of Leeds. In 1798, when first visited by the writer, on an old pane of glass in one of its stone-mullioned windows, were inscribed the following lines—

Gaily I lived as Ease and Nature taught,
And past my little Life without a thought;
I wonder then why Death, that tyrant grim,
Should think of me, who never thought of him.

These were followed by an admonitory quatrain—

Ah! why forget that Death should think of thee,
If thou art Mortal, such must surely be;
Then rouse up reason, view thy hast'ning end,
And lose no time to make thy God thy Friend.

Alas! the comfortable little old inn has since been demolished, and a large fashionable one erected on its site, but to me it does not supply that satisfactory, nor seeming comfort and ease which I constantly experienced in its predecessor. J. H.

EARLY MERCHANT'S MARK.

All the examples of marks mercantile which occur on sepulchral brasses in the churches of Ipswich have been noticed in Current Notes. The annexed is the only one that is incised on a flat stone in St. Peter's church. The being merchant and master of a ship, appears to have been, in 1620, deemed worthy of especial note:—

Here lieth interred Adriaen Adriaenzoo Waywell, who when he lived was both merchant and master of a shipp, he deceased the 22 December, MDCXX.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

PILLEMENT.—I am anxious to learn something of JEAN PILLEMENT, an artist who flourished about a century ago, and as I know of no means so likely for the attainment of that object as through the agency of your useful and excellent Current Notes, I venture to ask if any of your readers can afford me any information respecting him and his works, and whether his crayon drawings, for which, I believe, he was famous in his day, are now of any value? I have sought on the walls of the Louvre for specimens of this artist, and finding but one, I concluded his works are somewhat scarce, is this so?

E. K. B.

Jean Pillement was a Frenchman, who resided some years in London, chiefly patronised and employed by Mons. C. Leviez, a dancing-master of some notoriety in Beaufort-buildings, in the Strand; but who, in addition to the reputation acquired by his Terpsichorean profession, added the, no doubt to him, highly profitable dealing in prints and drawings. Pillement's chief employment was the drawing of landscapes and fancy subjects, generally in black chalk upon white paper, sometimes strengthened in Indian ink. These were theatrically disposed, the parts not drawn from nature, but selected from prints, those by Le Bas after Wouvermans, were the main source from which he drew the forms in all his pasticcio productions. They had the merit of being finished with considerable patience and care, and from that cause obtained much notice from persons with whom neatness of execution was held to be the perfection of art. Leviez had, on his own account, many plates engraved after Pillement's designs, some of them by Ravenet; Boydell's name appears to others as the publisher. There are also some fantastically designed ornaments, in what was then ridiculously termed the Chinese Taste; these were engraved by Canot, and are dated 1759.

The repute in which he was then held, induced some of his drawings to be exhibited in the first and second exhibitions of the Royal Academy, but they are not particularised in the Catalogues; and he soon after quitted England.

Pillement painted a few pictures in a similar style of composition with his drawings, showy in their colouring, but deficient in tone. These, with his drawings, have failed to retain their former estimation.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXVII.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [JULY, 1856.

KEIGWIN FAMILY MANSION AT MOUSEHOLE.

Penzance in the sixteenth century was but little known and of minor importance, Mousehole on the contrary was the principal town on the shores of the Mount's Bay; but all things change, Mousehole* has declined to a mere fishing village, and Penzance is now a large progressive and prosperous town.

The Keigwins of Mousehole were the principal family in the parish of St. Paul; and in 1595, the large house noticed by many of our local historians, but not till now engraved —

was occupied by Jenkin Keigwin, then the head of that family. On the morning of July 23, in that year, the Spaniards made a descent upon the coast over against Mousehole, and Jenkin Keigwin was killed by a shot fired from one of their gallies in their attack upon the town.† He was buried at St. Paul; but the cannon-ball has since been religiously preserved, and may be seen in the above house.

During the Civil war, a descendant made himself sufficiently conspicuous as a royalist, and is thus noticed in the following letter.

June 30, 1646.

Sir, I believe the Castle of Pendennis will not be long out of our hands; a dogger boat with four guns I have taken, whereof one Kedgwin of Penzant, was Captain, a notable active knave against the Parliament, and had the king's commission, but now would fain be a merchant man, and was ballasted with salt, and had diverse letters in her for Pendennis Castle.

Aboard the Andrew,
before Pendennis Castle,
W. BATTEN.

Allusion is later made to a Mr. John Keigwin, as being the last person whose knowledge of the Cornish language was rudimentally correct.‡ He rendered Lluyd material assistance while forming his Cornish grammar,

* Mousehole in the Cornish language named Porternis, and in Latin, Portus Insulæ, both importing one meaning—the Island Haven, and so called by reason of a small island situated before it.

† The Spaniards in their Popish malevolence considered the English a nation of heretics, and their extirpation a service rendered to God. This induced the armament in 1588, but its discomfiture appears to have been soon forgotten by them, and the atrocity of this descent, is thus narrated by Carew.

Soon after the sun was risen, and had chased a fog that kept the sea out of sight, four gallies of the enemy presented themselves upon the coast over against Mousehole, and there in a fair bay, landed about two hundred men, pikes and shot, who forthwith sent their forlorn hope, consisting of their basest people, unto the straggled houses of the country, about half a mile compass or more, by whom were burned, not only the houses they went by, but also the parish church of St. Paul, the force of the fire being such, as it utterly ruined all the great stone pillars thereof. Others of them, in that time, burned the fisher-town Mousehole; the rest marched as a guard for defence of the firers. The inhabitants being feared with the Spaniards landing and burning fled from their dwellings, and very meanly weaponed, met on a green on the west side of Penzance, Sir Francis Godolphin who was that forenoon coming from his house for the pacifying some controversies in those western parts; and from the hills espying the fires in that town, church and houses, hastened thither. He forthwith sent to all the Captains of those parts for their speedy repair with their companies; and also, by post to Sir Francis Drake, and Sir John Hawkins, then at Plymouth, with a fleet bound for the Indies, sent advertisement of the arrival of these four gallies, and of their burnings; advising them to look to themselves, if there were any greater fleet of the enemy's at sea; and to send west with all haste what succours by sea or land, they could spare. Sir Francis Godolphin then advised that weak assembly to retire into Penzance, and to prepare it for defence until the coming of the country forces that he had sent for; but they finding themselves something above a hundred, wherein were about thirty or forty shot, though scarcely one third of them were serviceable, insisted upon marching against the enemy to repel them from further spoils of their houses.

‡ Courtney's Guide to Penzance. The figure of the fisherwoman represented in the woodcut, is introduced as a memento of Dorothy or Dolly Pentreath, a remarkable Cornish character, who lived and died at Mousehouse, and is said to have been the last person who could speak in the Cornish dialect.

and was the translator from the Celtic dialect, of two works, one entitled The Creation of the World; the other Mount Calvary. The manuscripts were deposited in the Bodleian Library, but have since been printed under the editorial care of the late Davies Gilbert, M.P. This John Keigwin died in 1710.

The Keigwin mansion, has long remained unoccupied. That portion, which is in part only seen resting upon square pillars, is now a public house, known by the name of the Keigwin Arms. Carne passingly observes—the roomy and massive dwelling of the last survivor of an old family, the only grandee of the place, had not very remotely become the chief inn in the village; yet the faded portraits on some of the walls, the gloomy air of many of the spacious apartments, and above all, the decaying walls, in parts of which ivy had grown, and the ancient but now neglected garden proved that the possessor had been a man of opulence, and as was still recollected, of influence in the village, equal almost to that of a feudal chieftain.§

The ceiling of the principal room is decorated with shields bearing men's heads, dolphins and escallop shells. In one of the compartments is the Keigwin crest.‖

Some descendants of the Keigwins are still living.

Penzance, July 4. HENRY WILLIAMS.

COINS OF EDWARD THE FIRST.

The following extract, from a letter dated Edinburgh, April 2, 1785, will probably interest some of your Northern readers.

Last week as the grave digger was making a grave in the churchyard of Brechin, in moving the earth immediately underneath after cutting off sod or swaird, and within nine inches of the surface, he turned up a vast number of silver pieces, they say as many as would have filled a large hat; and amongst them six silver spoons with circular mouths of about two inches diameter, and about a quarter of an inch deep; a shank four inches and a half long, and about an eighth of an inch thick, with a small knob or button at the extremity.

All or most of the pieces of coin are about the size of a sixpence, and seem to be the coinage of Edward as bearing his name, and to have been coined at different places; some of them with a head within a triangle, and on the reverse side, a cross with three points in each angle, with CIVITAS DVBLINIE around it.

At what period the money and these spoons had been deposited or left there, people here do not pretend to form a conjecture, unless it had been at the time the English under King Edward the First besieged and took the castle of Brechin, then commanded by Sir Thomas Maule. What may lead to this conjecture is, that the churchyard is within less than three hundred yards of Brechin castle to the north thereof, and divided therefrom by a very hollow and deep glen; and that the English had been posted in and about the churchyard, and had lost the money there.

R. F.

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§ Tales of the West. ‖ Courtney's Guide to Penzance.

COINAGE OF EDWARD THE SECOND.

The following are all the varieties of the pennies of King Edward the Second, coined between July, 1307, and January, 1327, with which I am acquainted, and have only to hope that a similar response may be made to my request, of any additional varieties being communicated through Current Notes, as was the case with reference to the coinage of the first Edward.

LONDON MINT.

1. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
   CIVITAS LON DON
2. Obverse as no. 1., but with English e
   Reverse as no. 1.
3. Obverse as no. 1.
   Reverse, CIVI TAƧ LON DON
4. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB'.
   Reverses of nos. 4 to 10, as no. 1.
5. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB:
6. EDWA R ANGL DNS HY: B:
7. EDWA R AANGL DNS HYB
8. EDWA · R ANG DNS HYB
9. EDWA · R ANGL DNS HYB
10. EDWA R ANGL DNS HB
11. Obverse as no. 1.
    : CIVITAS LONDON
12. Obverse as no. 1.
    CIVI TAS DON DON
13. EDWA R ANGL o DNS o HYB Mint Mark a Cross pattée. Roman N's.
    Reverse as no. 1.
14. EDWR R ANGL DNS HYB
    CIVITAS LONDON
15. As no. 14, but having pellet after HYB.
16. EDWR RE ANGL DNS HYB
    Reverse as no. 1.
17. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB
    CIVITAS LONDON.
18. As no 17, but with pellet after R. for REX.
19. Obverse as no. 17.
    CIVI CIVI LON DON.
20. As no. 17.
    CIVI TAS LON DON The second I in CIVI has a horizontal stroke through the middle.
21. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB The front stroke of the Y springs from the back of the B, in monogram.
    Reverse, as no. 1.
22. EDWAR' REX ANGL DNS HYB
    CIVITAS LONDON

The letters are elegantly formed, the obverse die larger than the reverse; but it is the best piece of this reign that I have seen. The coin is of the small size.

23. EDWARD R ANGL DNS HYB
    CIVITAS LONDON
24. As no. 23; after HYB follows mark of abbreviation.
25. EDWARD R ANG DNS HYB
    Reverse, as no. 1.

26. •EDWARD ○ ANGL ○ R ○ DNS ○ HYB ○
CIVITAS ○ LONDON ○ Smaller coin than usual.

BERWICK.

27. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
VIL LAB ERE VICI
The obverses of the coins of this mint are all very similar excepting no. 31, on which the English ϵ appears,
28. : VIL LAB ERE WIC
29. : VIL LAB ERE WYCI
30. As no. 27, dot on breast, badly executed.
VILL ABE REVV ICI
31. ϵDWA R ANGL DNS HYB Dot on breast.
VILL ABE REV VICI Roman E's on reverse.
32. Obverse as no. 27.
VILL ABE REV VICI Roman E.
33. Obverse as no. 27; dot on the King's breast.
VILL ABE REV VICI
34. On reverse BIREWI, Cuff, no. 796.

BRISTOL.

35. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL BRI STO LIE
36. As no. 35.
VILL ABR ISTO LLIE

CANTERBURY.

37. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVITAS CANTOR
38. As no. 37, letters unusually large.
39. As no. 37, brooch on breast; letters small and elegantly formed.
40. As no. 37; on obv., one dot follows legend.
41. As no 37; two dots at end of legend.
42. As no. 37, three dots at end of legend.
43. ϵDWA R See Current Notes, p. 24. The varieties supplied by your correspondent, W. F. M., I have not met with elsewhere, but they are here incorporated.
44. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
Reverse as no. 37.
45. EDWA R ANG DNS HYB
Reverse as no. 37.
46. EDWAR ANGL DNS HYB
CANTOR CANTOR
47 EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB:
CIVITAS CASTOR
48. Obverse as no. 37.
CIVI TAS CANTAÒ
49. Obverse as no. 37.
CIVI TAS CAN TAS
50. Obverse as no. 37.
CANTAS. CANTOS
51. EDWR R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVITAS CANTOR
52. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVITAS CANTOR
53. As no. 52, but with pellet after HYB.
54. As no. 53, with two pellets HYB:
55. Obverse as no. 52.
CIVITAS CANTAS
56. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB the YB in monogram.
CIVITAS CANTOL
57. EDWARD R ANGL DNS HYB
Reverse as no. 37.
58. Obverse as no 57.
CIVITAS CANTON

DURHAM.

59. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB m.m., a plain cross
CIVI TAS DVR EME
60 ϵDWA R. ANGL DNS HYB m.m., a cross pattée.
Reverse as no. 59.
Communicated by W. F. M. Large letters. In Current Notes, p. 24, no. 12, for the accredited style of Edward II., read Edward I.
61. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB m.m., a cross moline.
CIVI TAS DVR EME

The cross Moline was borne by Anthony Beck, Patriarch of Jerusalem, elected to this see July 9, 1283. As Prince Palatine he bore arms, Gules, a cross moline Argent. He died in March 1311.

62. Obverse as no. 59.
CIVI TAS DVN ELM Crosier turned to left.

Richard de Kellawe, or Kellow, succeeded Beck, March 30, 1311. He appears to have been promoted for his merits or services, and having no pretensions to family arms, distinguished his coins from those of his predecessor, by a pastoral staff on the upright limb of the cross, turned to the left. He died Oct. 9, 1317.

63. Obverse as no. 59.
Reverse as no. 62. Crozier turned to the right
See Noble on Durham Coins, p. 20.
64. Obverse as no. 59. m.m. a Lion rampant.
CIVI TAS DVNELM

Lodovic Beaumont descended from Lewis, son of Lewis, King of Sicily and Jerusalem, younger brother of Lewis the ninth King of France. Treasurer of Salisbury he was appointed the successor of bishop Kellow, in Oct. 1317; lame of both legs, and so illiterate, that he was unable to read his consecration bull. He bore arms, Azure, semy of fleur-de-lis, a lion rampant Or; and died suddenly, Sept. 20, 1333.

65. ϵDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVI TAS DVN ϵLM Crosier turned to left.
66. Obverse as no. 59.
CIVITAS DVNELMI On the Cross, within a lozenge, a crown. Cuff, no. 798.
67. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB m.m., a Cross Moline.
CIVITAS DVREME
68. Obverse as no 67. m.m. a plain cross.
69. EDWAR R ANGL DNA HYB m.m., a cross pattée.
CIVITAS DVREME
70. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB.
CIVITAS DVNELM Crosier to left.
71. As no. 70. m.m., a Cross Moline.
72. As no. 70. m.m., a plain Cross.
73. As no. 70. m.m., a lion rampant. One fleur-de-lis in front.

74. As no. 70. The same. Two fleurs-de-lis in front.
75. As no. 70. m.m., a lion rampant between two fleurs-de-lis.
76. As no. 70. m.m. a lion rampant
77. As no. 70. On reverse, a cross fleury at end.
78. EDWARD R ANGL DNS HYB
CIVITAS DVREME
79. EDWARD R ANGL DNS H
CIVITAS DVREMIE
80. As no 78. But on reverse DVRENE
81. EDWARD REX ANGL DNS HYB
CIVITAS DVREME

ST. EDMUNDSBURY.

82. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ASCI EDM VNDI
83. Obverse as no. 82.
VILL SCIE DMV NDI
84. •ЄDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL SCIE DMV NDI•
85. Same type, without pellets? Current Notes, p. 24.
86. Obverse and reverse as no. 83. Pellet on breast.
87. EDWA• R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL' SCI EDMV NDI
88. EDWR R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL SCI EDM VNDI
89. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ASCI EDM VNDI
90. Obverse as no. 89.
VILL SCIE DMV NDI
91. Obverse as no 89.
VILL' SCIE DMV NDI
92. Obverse as no. 89.
VILL : SCIE DMV NDI A slight line across the final I, gives it the appearance of a Cross.
93. EDWAR R• ANGL DNS HYB
VILL SCIE DMV NDI
94. EDWARD R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL SCIE DMV NDI

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

95. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL ANOV CAS TRI
96. EDWAR R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL NOVI CAS TRI
97. EDWARD R ANGL DNS HYB
VILL NOVI CAS TRI
98. EDWARD R ANGL DNS HYB'
Reverse as no. 97.
99. Obverse as no. 97.
VILL NOV CAS TRI

King Edward the First struck coins at Chester, Exeter, Kingston, Lincoln and York; but of King Edward the Second, I have not met with any.

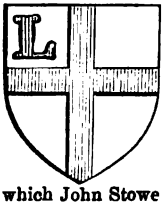
July 7. F. R. N. HASWELL.

ERRATA.—P. 41, col. 2, line 2 from foot, for Portland read Dorset. P. 44, col. 2, line 6 from foot of page, for Constantine read Constantina.

FABULOUS HISTORY OF THE ARMS OF LONDON.

Stow, in his Survey of London, quoting Dunthorne, refers to a change made during the Mayoralty of William Walworth, fishmonger, 1380-81, in the armorial device on the official seal, when the prior one 'being very small, old, unapt, and uncomely for the honour of the city,' was directed to 'be broken, and one other new should be had;' as shewing evidence that 'the armes of this Citty were not altered, but remayne as afore; to witte, argent, a playne cross gules, a sword of St. Paul in the first quarter, and no dagger of W. Walworth as is fabuled.'

The Harleian Manuscript, no. 1349, entitled 'the Arms of Companies and Citizens of London,' has on the first page, the following as shewing Stow himself to have been in error.



The auncient armes of the City of London as they stand in our Ladye Church at Antwerp; in which churche window stand the effigies of King Edward the Third, and all his children, with most of the armes of the Corporate Townes of England at that tyme; and this standeth first, and hath an ould Romane L in the first quarter, which John Stowe in an ould scale he had seene, took for a sword, affirming thereby that it was the sword of St. Paul, patron of the said City, whereby he constantly affirmed that they had auntiently so borne it, and that it was no reward given by King Richard the Second, as our chronicles report for the service done in Smythfield agaynst Wat Tiler the Rebell by William Walworth, Mayor of London, who slew the said Wat Tyler with his dagger, in memory whereof say they the dagger was added to the Cityes Armes.

The dagger that now appears in the arms of London is therefore no sword of St. Paul; but is an erroneous substitute for the initial L for London, which appears in the earlier coat as borne in the time of King Edward the Third.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

ARMS OF THE CLOTHWORKERS' COMPANY.

The Clothworkers' Company of London, firstly incorporated in 1482, appears to have been an offshoot from the ancient guild of the Weavers, and their arms were first granted by Thomas Benolt, Clarencieux. in 1530. The crest and supporters were subsequently granted to them in 1587, by Robert Cooke, Clarencieux; and that grant is here first printed from the original document.

To all and singular, as well Nobles and Gentels as others, to whome these presentes shall come, be seene, heard, read, or understood, ROBERT COOKE, Esquier, alias Clarencieulx Kinge of Armes, and Principall Heralde of the east, west, and southe partes of this Realme of England, sendethe greetinge in our Lord God euerlastinge.

Anciently from the beginninge the vertuous actes of worthey persons haue bene comended to the Worlde with sondrey monumentes and remembrances of their good deseartes, Emongest the which the chifest and most usuall hathe

bene the bearinge of Signes and Tokens in Shildes called Armes, beinge euident demonstrations and testimonies of Prowes and Valoir diuersly distributed accordinge to the qualities and deseartes of the persons meritinge the same; whiche order as it was prudently diuided to stirre vp and enflame the hartes of men to the imitation of vertue, euen sohathe the same bene continued from tyme to tyme and yet is continually observed to the entente that such as haue done comendable service to their Prince or Contrie, either in Warre or Peace, may therefore receaue due honor in their lyues, and also deriue the same successiuely to their Posteritie and Successours after them.

And whereas the Clotheworkers of the Citye of London are Incorporate by the name of Master Wardens and Comunaltye of ffremen of the arte or mistery of Clotheworkers of the Citye of London; and that they should be a perpetuall Comunaltye: and yerely chose one Master and foure Wardens of the men of the Comunaltye aforsayd to oversee, rule, and duly gouerne the said arte or misterye and all and singular the men of the same arte or misterye, and that they should haue a perpetuall succession and one comon Seale for the necessarye busines of the same arte or misterye sarue them for ever; which arte or misterye haue of longe continuance borne armes without either Healme, Creast, or Supporters; notwithstandinge for the greater Creadite and worshipe of the said arte or misterye; they haue Required me the said Clarencieulx Kinge of Armes to assigne unto these their auncient armes, a Creast and Supporters lawfull to be borne: In consideration of their Worthines, and at the enstant request of THOMAS WILLETT, Master of the said arte or misterye; JOHN BURNELL, JOHN ROBOTHAM, JOHN WALL, and LANCELOT YONG, Wardens of the said arte or misterye I have by power and auothoritie to my Office annexed and Granted by letters patentes under the great Seale of England deuised, ordeyned, and assigned to the said Master and Wardens, and to their Successours in offyce and lyke place, and to all those enfranchised of the said arte or misterye, to their auncient armes the Creast and Supporters hereafter folowinge:

That is to say, upon the Healme, on a wreathe siluer and sables, on a mounte vert a Ram gold. The Supporters, two Griffens, gold pelletye; mantled, sables, doubled siluer as more playnley apperithe depicted in the margent. Which Creast and Suppporters I the said Clarencieulx Kinge of Armes, do ratifye, confirm, giue and graunte unto the sayde Master and Wardens, and to their Successours in lyke place and office, and to all the men enfranchesed of the saide arte or misterye of Clotheworkers within the Citye of London: they the same to use, beare, and shewe for ever in all places honest to their honor and worshipe on shielde, standard, banners, peanons, streamors, pencells, or otherwyse at their lyberty and pleasure, accordinge to the auncient lawes of armes, without impediment, lett, or interruption of any person or persons.

In witnesse whereof I the said Clarencieulx Kinge of Armes, haue hereunto subscribed my name and thereto put the Seale of my office the xxvth day of Marche, in the yere of our Lord God, 1587, and in the xxixth yere of the reigne of our most gracious Souvereigne Lady Queene Elizabeth. ROBT. COOKE, alias Clarencieulx, Roy d'Armes.

On sepulchral memorials, the arms of the London companies frequently occur, but of the Clothworkers, I have seen an instance only on a brass in Great Saxham Church, Suffolk, to the memory of John Eldred, the celebrated navigator, 1632.

The arms 'depicted in the margent,' are the same as now borne by the Company. They were confirmed to the Clothworkers, at the visitation of London, by HENRY ST. GEORGE, Knight, Richmond Herald, 1634. Edward Claxton, Esquire, being then Master.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. HOWARD.

CHARLOTTE DE LA TREMOÜILLE, COUNTESS OF DERBY.

Can you oblige your readers with any account of Charlotte de la Tremoüille, Countess of Derby, and her defence of Lathom House?

Clifton, July 1. A SUBSCRIBER.

Charlotte de la Tremoüille was the second and only surviving daughter of Claude de la Tremoüille, Duke of Thouars (Peer of France, 1599;) by his wife Charlotte Brabantine, daughter of William the First, Prince of Orange, by his third wife, Charlotte de Bourbon, daughter of Louis, Duke of Montpensier.

Beautiful and accomplished, James Stanley, born Jan. 31, 1606, the heir apparent of William, sixth Earl of Derby, met with her at the Hague, upon his return from his travels, and though she was very young, they were married June 25, 1626, and by this union he became allied with the Houses of Nassau, Bourbon, and most of the sovereign Princes of Europe.

Upon his marriage, they appear to have participated in the gaieties of the Court of Charles the First. He was summoned to the House of Peers, as Baron Strange, in 1628. Bassompierre mentions his house being the resort of foreigners of distinction, and the name of the Countess is found frequently with those, who, with the Queen Henrietta Maria, took part in the masques and other diversions in the palace.*

Upon the death of his father in 1642, Lord Strange became seventh Earl of Derby, and on the king's declaration of war against his subjects, hastened to join his standard; and in support of the royal cause went to the Isle of Man, then menaced by the parliamentary anthorities. While there, early in 1644, Lathom House, in which the Countess and her children resided, was attacked by Fairfax, but her admirable defence prevented its capture. It was for a time relieved, but of that and his other estates, the Earl was deprived by the Parliament; and to avenge the cruelties perpetrated by Prince Rupert, the Earl's plea of surrender on quarter for life was disregarded, and he was executed at Bolton, in Lancashire, Oct. 15, 1651. By letter dated Oct. 12, the Earl entreated the Countess to have regard to the safety of herself and children, and make terms for the rendering of the Isle of Man to the existing authorities, as all further attempts were hopeless. All happened as the Earl had foreseen, the parliamentarians obtained possession, and the Countess and her children were placed in rigorous confinement, but were after a period permitted to wander about, to seek alms and the precarious bounty of friends as impoverished as themselves. The advent of the Restoration at length partially restored the family estates to her eldest son Charles, the eighth Earl, at whose seat, Knowsley Hall, in Lancashire, the Countess subsequently resided, and died there March 21, 1663-4. She was interred on April 6th following at the family burial place at Ormskirk.

* In Lodge's Portraits of Illustrious Personages, is a portrait of her when Lady Strange, engraved from a painting by Vandyke.

In the churchyard at Lavenham, Suffolk, is the following epitaph:—

Quod fuit esse, quod est, quod non fuit esse, quod esse;
Esse quod est, non esse, quod est non est, erit esse.
1694.

Will any of your readers favour us with a good translation.

July 1. W. B.

THE PORTEOUS OUTRAGE, 1736.

Few persons who have perused Scott's Heart of Mid-Lothian, will fail to remember the ample manner in which Porteous's outrage upon the people of Edinburgh at Wilson's execution is detailed in the second and third chapters of that Novel.* Scott appears to have drawn his material from the printed records of that day, but the narrative, full as it is, deviates in several particulars from the facts. In a garret-room at Culloden-House, among a mass of lumber was discovered, some time since, a pair of old saddle bags, into which had been thrust a number of letters, accounts, and other written papers, chiefly relating to the times of the celebrated President Forbes, and his son, John Forbes of Culloden. Duncan Forbes, it is well known, in the midst of his public cares and professional pursuits, had a decided taste for literature, and cultivated the acquaintance and conversation of authors. He was the friend and patron of Thomson and Allan Ramsay, and among these so adventitiously discovered thrown-by papers were two by the latter poet, which as proffering singularly detailed particulars of what really did occur at Wilson's execution, will doubtless be read with much interest. Ramsay's narrative addressed "To the Honourable Duncan Forbes of Culloden, his Majesty's Advocat for Scotland, Membr. of Parlt., London," was written on the day following the occurrence of this memorable affair; and is thus—

A true and faithful account of the Hobleshew that happened in Edinburgh, Wednesday the 14th of Aprile, 1736, at the hanging of Wilson, Housebreaker.

On the Sunday preceding, viz. the 11th, the two condemn'd criminalls, Wilson and Robertson, were taken as usual by four Sogers out of prison to hear their last sermon, and Wilson, who was a very strong fellow, took Robertson, by the headband of his breeks and threw him out of the seat, held a soger fast in each hand, and one of them with his teeth, while Robertson got over and throw the pews, pushed o'er the elder and plate at the door, made his escape through the Parlt. Close down the back stairs, got out of the Poteraw port before it was shut, the mob making way and assisting him; got friends, money, and a swift horse, and fairly got off, nae mair to be heard of or seen. This made them take a closer care of Wilson (who had the best character of them all till his foly made him seek reprisals at his own hand,) which had gained him so much pity as to raise a report that a great mob would rise on his execution day to relieve him, which noyse put our magistrates on their guard, and may be made some of them unco fley'd, as was evidenced by their inviting 150 of the regiment that lyes in the Cannongate, who were all drawn up in the Land Market, while the criminall was conducted to the tree by Captain Porteus and a strong party of the City Guard. All was hush, psalms sung, prayers put up for a long hour and upwards, and the man hanged with all decency and quietness. After he was cut down and the guards drawing up to go off, some unlucky boys threw a stone or two at the hangman, which is very common, on which the brutal Porteus, (who it seems had ordered his party to load their guns with ball) let drive first himself amongst the innocent mob, and commanded his men to follow his example which quickly cleansed the street, but left three men, a boy, and a woman dead upon the spot, besides several others wounded, some of whom are dead since. After the first fire he took it in his head, when half up the Bow, to order another volley, and killed a taylor in a window three stories high, a young gentlewoman, and a son of Mr. Matheson the Minister's, and several more were dangerously wounded; and all this from no more provocation than what I told you before, the throwing of a stone or two that hurt nobody. Believe this to be true, for I was ane eye-witness, and within a yard or two of being shot, as I sat with some gentlemen in a stabler's window opposite to the gallows. After this the crazy brute marched with his ragamuffins to the Guard, as if he had done nothing worth noticing; but was not long there till the hue and cry rose from them that had lost friends and servants demanding justice; he was taken before the Council, where there were abundance of witnesses to fix the guilt upon him. The uproar of a mob increased with the loudest din that ever was heard, and would have torn him, Council and Guard, all in pieces, if the magistrates had not sent him to the Tolbooth by a strong party, and told them he should be try'd for his life, which gave them some satisfaction and sent them quietly home. I could have acted more discreetly had I been in Porteus's place.

The persons here named are wholly unnoticed by Scott. Ramsay's communication appears to have been directed to the President, then Lord Advocate for Scotland, while attending to his parliamentary duties in London. It was enclosed in a letter written in a humble dependant tone, which our respect for the author of "The Gentle Shepherd" leads us to regard with something approaching to regret. Allan found but little profit to result from shaving—his bookselling venture was alike unprofitable, and his days were many of them passed in the sad mortification of penury and need. Ramsay's spelling has in both been retained.

Edinburgh, Aprile 15th, 1736.

My Lord—I wish I could light upon any opportunitys wherein I might show my readyness to serve, and show my gratitude for the regards that you have honoured me with. Will ye give me something to do? Here I pass a sort of a half-idle scrimp life, tending a trifling trade, that scarce affords me the needful. Had I not got a parcell of guineas from you, and such as you, who were pleased to patronise my subscriptions, I would not have had a gray groat. I think shame (but why should I, when I open my mind to one of your goodness?) to hint that I want to have some small commission, when it may happen to fall in your way to put me into it. Bookselling, good for nothing—Poetry, that's failed me, or rather my admirers have ceased to ferly—

* Waverley Novels, Abbotsford edition, vol. III., pp. 326-332.

Frae twenty-five to five and forty,
My Muse was nowther sweer nor dorty;
My Pegasus wad break his tether,
E'en at the wagging of a feather,
And throw ideas scour like drift,
Streeking his wings up to the Lift.
Then, then my saul was in a low
That gart my rhymes sae raffa row;
But eild and judgment 'gin to say,
Leave aff your sangs and learn to pray.

I hope to do something yet that may chance to please, and if I still have a place in your indulgence I'll be

Your Lordship's humble happy servant,
ALLAN RAMSAY.

GEORGE MORLAND'S PICTURES.

The Collection formed by the late Mr. Jesse Curling, of pictures painted by that pre-eminently distinguished artist GEORGE MORLAND, were sold by Mr. Quallett, New Bond Street, on the 11th inst. Most of them were painted at a period when his efforts justly obtained for him a lasting renown, and many of them were instantly recognizable from the generally disseminated prints which have been everywhere popularly estimated. His paintings are indeed incomparably faithful representations of rural life, and in the description of farm yards, village scenery, landscapes, cattle, fishermen, and smugglers on the sea-coast, Morland has never been surpassed.

The sight measure of each picture is added for the gratification of our country readers, and in addition to the prices, the purchasers' names.

4. Landscapes, a pair of cabinet pictures. On panel. Henry Stapylton, Esq. 9l.
5. Coast scene off Margate, fishing boats in the distance. On panel. 7¾ in. by 5¼ in. The same. 5l. 15s.
6. Girl with kitten, spiritedly sketched. On panel. 8½ in. by 7½ in. Matthew Hutchinson, Esq. 33l. 12s.
7. Three pigs eating turnips. 11½ in. by 6½ in. Henry Stapylton, Esq. 12l. 5s.
8. Tap-room fire-side, with group of five figures and accessories. On copper, carefully finished. 12 in. by 9½ in. John Curling, Esq. 17l. 6s. 6d.
9. Two men under a shady tree conversing, a dog sleeping on the ground. On panel, very rich in colour. 7 in. by 6 in. T. E. Eden, Esq. 12l. 12s.
10. The gravel diggers. On panel, highly finished. 8 in. by 6 in. J. H. Anderdon, Esq. 24l. 3s.
11. Winter Scene. Soldiers returning on furlough; cottages in the distance. On panel, carefully painted. 10½ in. by 7 in. Alderman Sidney. 12l. 1s. 6d.
12. Horses watering, landscape and ruins in back ground. On panel, dated 1794. 11 in. by 9 in. J. H. Anderdon, Esq. 28l. 7s.
13. The washing-day, with child in pond, and village church in the distance. 11 in. by 10 in. Alderman Sidney. 23l. 2s.
14. Road scene. Man on horseback enquiring the way, and another directing. 12 in. by 9½ in. Matthew Hutchinson, Esq. 19l. 19s.
15. The Rustic's proposal. 12 in. by 9½ in. Charles Curling, Esq. 47l. 5s.

An exquisite production, happily illustrative of the lines in the ballad—

He stammer'd and stutter'd, and let his hat fall,
Then grinn'd, scratch'd his head, and said—nothing at all.
If bashful the swain, no less bashful the maid,
She hung down her head, with her apron string play'd;
Whilst the old folks impatient the thing should be done,
Agreed that young Roger and Kate should be one.

16. Heath scene; Man dismounted; another cutting furze. Woodman's cottage in the distance. 14 in. by 10½ in. James Mitchell, Esq. 15l. 15s.
17. The old Posters, painted with masterly effect. 15 in. by 12 in. John Curling, Esq. 69l. 6s.
18. The Setters in Covert, a woodland scene of great merit, the dogs spiritedly delineated. 15 in. by 12 in. Vokins. 40l. 19s.
19. Noontide. Landscape, sheep reposing. Finely painted on panel, dated 1798. 15 in. by 12 in. Charles Curling, Esq. 248l. 17s.
20. The mussel gatherers, with their boat, on a rocky shore. On panel, painted with great care. 11 in. by 10 in. Vokins. 42l.
21. Roadside inn, drovers refreshing. Vigorously painted. 14 in. by 11 in. Vokins. 52*l.* 10*s.*
22. Wintry scene, sheep being housed for the night, 15 in. by 10 in. John Lye, Esq. 31l. 10s.
23. Landscape, figures in the foreground, old barn with sheep in the distance. On panel, painted with great care, dated 1796. 12½ in. by 10 in. Rought, Regent Street. 47l. 5s.
24. Coast scene, by moonlight, highly meritorious. 17 in. by 14 in. Alderman Sidney. 35l. 3s 6d.

The four following formed a series of hunting subjects well known from the engravings: the pictures are now dispersed.

25. The going out, settling the reckoning at the Fox inn; huntsmen and hounds in the distance. 26 in. by 20 in. Matthew Hutchinson, Esq. 74l. 11s.
26. Hounds going in covert, squire and huntsman on horseback. 26 in. by 20 in. John Lye, Esq. 36l. 15s.
27. The check, hounds at fault in the foreground; fox away in the distance. Very masterly. 26 in. by 20 in. Matthew Hutchinson, Esq. 79l.
28. In at the death, fox and hounds in the foreground, huntsmen climbing over the fence; dated 1794. 26 in. by 20 in. Haskett Smtih, Esq. 60l.
29. Rustic interior, the fireside on a winter's day. 25 in. by 20 in. Matthew Hutchinson, Esq. 53l. 11s.
30. Interior of a farm-house kitchen, rustics preparing their evening meal. 24 in. by 18 in. The same. 68l. 5s.

31. Land storm, figures sheltering themselves; stream with bridge in the distance. 24 in. by 18 in. Rought. 51l. 9s.
32. Sea storm, the wreck on shore, figures clinging to the rocks; the long boat in the distance. 25 in. by 20 in. Attenborough. 37l. 16s.
33. Pheasant shooting, a woodland scene, with gamekeeper and dogs. 25 in. by 20 in. Rought. 92l. 8s.
34. The hard bargain: interior of stable, figures dealing for a calf; a dog sleeping, and another in the middle distance. 26 in. by 20 in. Charles Curling, Esq. 131l. 5s.
35. The Gypsies: a rich woodland scene, gamekeeper leaning on style, in conversation with a group of gypsies, etc. 30 in. by 24 in. Richard Frankum, Esq. 55l. 13s
36. Thatchers repairing roof of roadside inn, horses in the foreground; and market woman in the distance, dated 1795. 30 in. by 24 in. D. T. White. 147l.
37. Innocence alarmed, an interior with figures, dogs, gamekeeper, etc., singularly brilliant, clear, and transparent. 36 in. by 30 in. Matthew Hutchinson, Esq. 224l 14s.
38. The Horse Fair; interior of stable, horses and figures about to attend the horse fair, seen in the distance. Admirably painted. 36 in. by 30 in. Charles Curling, Esq. 231l.

The produce of these paintings was 2173l., yet were they the products of the son of an obscure painter now designated 'Old Morland,' who subsisted late in life by the incessant toil of his son in producing drawings for sale—hence in the few hours of remission he sought solace among public-house companions, formed bad connexions, and imbibed intemperate habits, which destroyed his energies, and rendered him always poor, thus, many of his best pictures, those which will ever eternise his name among English artists, were painted with inconceivable rapidity in sponging-houses to raise means to redeem him from arrest, or in ale houses, to discharge his reckoning. He died in a sponging-house in 1804; and his wife, the sorrowing victim of his follies and inebriety, followed him, two days after.

MEMOIRS OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Mr. Edward Edwards, Librarian of the Public Library, Manchester, has announced as preparing for speedy publication, Memoirs of Public Libraries; with a Practical Hand-book of Library Economy. The prospectus of this work shews amplified details of the vast labour and research which have attended the producing of a book, with such an admirable purport of utility and record. The whole is in three parts, each containing many subdivisions. The first comprises the History of the Libraries of the Antients, and the Monastic Libraries of the Middle Ages—General View of the Origin and Extension of Libraries in Modern Europe; the Imperial and Royal Libraries of Paris, Munich, British Museum, St. Petersburg, Copenhagen, Berlin, Vienna, and Dresden. The Public Libraries of Italy; the University and Town Libraries of Germany and France; the University, Collegiate, Cathedral, Town and Parochial Libraries, with the Proprietary and Public Libraries of Great Britain and Ireland. The Libraries of the United States of America.

Comparative Statistics of Books publicly accessible in the libraries of Great Britain, Europe, and the United States, and of the means afforded by Ewart's Public Library Act, 1855, for supplying those of the United Kingdom.

The Economy of Libraries, more especially of their formation; the collection of books by taxation, or copy-exaction from authors and publishers, by donation, by international exchange, or by purchase.

Designs and Projects for a great Public Library, elicited by recent propositions for the removal of the Imperial Library at Paris, with other Projects for Public Libraries, involving notices of the more celebrated edifices of St. Mark's Library, Venice; the Laurentian, at Florence; the Vatican, at Rome; the Brera, at Milan; the Bodleian and Radcliffe Libraries, at Oxford; St. Genevieve's, at Paris; the Ducal Library, Wolfenbuettel; the University, and Trinity College Libraries, Cambridge; the Imperial Library, St. Petersburg; the Royal Libraries, Copenhagen and Munich; and the British Museum Library.

The arrangement and preservation of Books, with the classification of Manuscripts, Prints, and Maps—followed by an Historical retrospect of Book-binding—describing the Monastic bindings in ivory, metals, and wood, carved, embossed, chased, and jewelled; bindings adorned with portraits, cameos, medallions, heraldic devices, and other ornaments. Embroidered or tambour bindings of velvet, silk, and damask. Embossed and stamped leather and vellum bindings, with the severally characteristic styles adopted in the libraries of Grolier, De Thou, Maioli, Hollis, and others. Notices of eminent Binders and their peculiarities.

Advantages and disadvantages of Alphabetical Catalogues, with the difficulties arising from the large number of anonymous and pseudononymous books. Collections on particular subjects; the publications of Societies, and Corporate Bodies.

Survey of the principal systems which have been proposed for the classification of Human Knowledge and Libraries, with the comparative merits of these Systems.

The Fifth and Sixth Books treat generally of the Management and Service of Public Reading Rooms, and of lending Libraries; with the Administrative Organization of a Public Library; followed by an Appendix of Bibliographical and Critical Notices of some pre-existing works on bibliothecal economy, and on the history of Libraries.

The author proposes to publish the work, with numerous illustrations, in two volumes, royal octavo. Price to Subscribers, 1l. 4s.

Subscribers' names are received by Messrs. Willis and Sotheran.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXVIII.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [AUGUST, 1856.

MEANING OF "UNIVERSITY NOMINALS."

During the reign of King Edward the Second, the University of Oxford was much prepossessed in favour of those who were termed 'Nominals,' whose peculiarity then as now consisted in the most rigid adherence to the signification of words, and of which class of persons, the following will afford a sufficient illustration.

Merton College being on the walls, and the Master and Fellows being desirous of a facility to walking in the meadows which were situated contiguously thereto; deputed three of their community to the king then at Woodstock, to ask his authority and permission. One of them, on their being presented to the king, signified that they were sent by the College to demand *licentiam faciendi ostium*—a licence or liberty to make a door; when a second immediately interrupted him, by saying that he was mistaken, as liberty to *make* a door was not a satisfaction to them, for so they might have a licence, and yet the door never be made; therefore, his desire was to have *ostium fieri*—a door *to be made.* On this the third insisted, that they were both in error, for by this request it might still be *in fieri*, but his petition was to have *ostium factum*,—a door *made.* Whereupon, the first replied, they were not so unmannerly as to desire a *door made*, for that was to demand the king to make them a door, yet simply desired they might have leave *posse ostium fieri*—to have it in their power to make a door; but the second again interposing, and the third as resolutely opposing the second, the king wearied by their squabble, intimated that though he understood their request, he would not give them satisfaction till they should agree in *modo loquendi.*

Oxford, August 4. P. B.

RUMP STEAK CLUB.—I have heard of the Beef Steak Club, but I am also told there is or was another, called the Rump Steak Club. Can any correspondent of Current Notes gratify your readers by some notice of it?

Cambridge, August 5. P.

Upon the Excise Scheme being rejected, King George the Second evinced his resentment against those Lords and Commons who opposed it, by turning his back upon them when they came to Court, upon which they formed themselves into a society, and designated themselves— the Rump Steak Club, adopting for their motto:

RUMPATUR QUISQUIS RUMPATUR INVIDIA.

The Toasts of the Rump Steak Club, were printed in a folio pamphlet, in 1734; but the Club has long since ceased.

THE SAINT GILES'S BOWL.

Burton, the historian of Leicestershire, mentions—At the hospital of Saint Giles in the Fields, without the bar of the Old Temple, London, and the Domus Conversorum, now the Rolls; the prisoners conveyed from the City of London towards Teybourne, there to be executed for treasons, felonies or other trespasses, were presented with a great bowle of ale thereof to drinke at their pleasure, as to be their last refreshing in this life. Parton, under the head of 'peculiar custom,'* states, before 1413, the gallows was removed from the Elms in Smithfield, and erected at the north end of the garden wall belonging to the hospital of St. Giles, on which spot between the ends of St. Giles's High Street, and Hoglane now Crown Street, opposite to the place where afterward the pound stood, it continued till removed to Tyburn. The condemned criminals on their way to this their place of execution, usually stopped at the great gate of the hospital, where they as their last refreshment in this life, were presented with a large bowl of ale, whence the name of 'the Saint Giles's bowl.'

The custom was not so peculiar, but appears to have been an observance of Popish times. Saintfoix, in reference to Paris, observes, in those ages when literature had not yet civilized our manners, the execution of criminals was a kind of show, exhibited with no small state and solemnity, and often on holidays.† On their way to the place of execution, they were to stop at certain places, and among others, in the Court of the Daughters of God, where they had a glass of wine, and three bits of consecrated bread. This collation was called the patient's last bit; and if he eat with any appetite, it was looked upon as a good omen to his soul.

In accordance with this practice, we find in 1477, the Duke of Nemours who was beheaded in the Fish-Market at Paris, was led thither from the Bastille, on a horse caparisoned with black cloth, The rooms in the market-place appointed for his last resting-place, were lined with blue-grey serge, sprinkled with vinegar, and fumigated with a fire of juniper-wood, to overpower the smell of the flesh. Whilst he was confessing, his Commissaries were treated with wine, white-bread and pears. He was then brought out upon a scaffold made

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* Some account of the Hospital and Parish of St. Giles in the Fields, 1822, 4to. p. 38.

† The same brutal malignity was evinced by King James the First, in the order for the execution of Sir Walter Raleigh, on the Inauguration day of the Mayor of London, 1618. This was done to evince his contempt for the citizens.

for that occasion, care having even been taken to newly stuff the cushion upon which he was to kneel; and the executioner after severing his head from the body, plunged it into a vessel of water, and held it up to the people. By order of the King, Louis the Eleventh, the Duke's children, the eldest of whom was but twelve years of age, were present on the scaffold, in white apparel, bare headed, and with folded hands, that they might be sprinkled with their father's blood! The fiend-like ovation over, the procession on its return was closed by one hundred and fifty Cordeliers holding lighted torches, the head and body of the Duke in an open coffin being borne before them. Money was given to them to bury him, and the whole chaunting proceeded on their way.

Pennant mentions, an anciently similar observance at York, occasioned the saying that 'the sadler of Bawtrey was hanged for leaving his liquor,' for that had he stopped as usual, his reprieve then actually on the road would have arrived in time to have saved him.

After the suppression of the Hospital, the ale appears to have been presented to criminals, at a house, that early in the seventeenth century, was known as 'the Bowl public house,' and gave name to Bowl-yard, which with Canter's Alley seem to have been the only places, or nearly so, built on the south side of the present Broad Street: the rest being for the most part, cultivated ground, known by the appellation of Great Garden. Bowl-yard was continued to Long Acre, by Belton Street, which, by an inscribed stone tablet, was erected in 1683; but modern improvements have demolished Bowl-yard, it is now named Endell Street; and the Swiss Church, with ale and bottle stores on each side as supporters, now occupy the site of the once well-known Bowl-Brewery.

LINES FROM AN EARLY MANUSCRIPT.

Fade, Flowers, fade! nature will have it so;
'Tis what all living must in autumn do:
And as your leaves lye listless on the ground,
The loss alone who loved them, will be found.

So in the grave shall we as quiet lye,
Miss'd by some few who liked our company;
But some so like to thorns and nettles live,
That none for them shall when they perish grieve.

On the fly-leaf of a copy of Tom Paine's Common Sense, sold among Ritson's books, were these lines:

On the King's Illness, 1789.

See the vengeance of Heaven! America cries,
George loses his senses, North loses his eyes;
When they strove to enslave us, all Europe will find,
That the tyrant was mad and his Minister blind.

Qu. Were these lines written by Tom Paine?

EDWARD F. RIMBAULT.

They were ascribed at the time to John Williams, better known as Anthony Pasquin. Ed.

EPITAPHIUM.

The Epitaph quoted in Current Notes, p. 62, by W. B., was inscribed to the Memory of John Wiles, of Lavenham, who died Dec. 16, 1691, ætat 50; the said epitaph appearing to be a paraphrase of two or three verses in the sacred Scriptures, viz.—

The thing that hath been, is that which shall be. *Ecclesiastes*, ch. i. v. 9.

That which hath been, is now, and that which is to be, hath already been. *Eccl.*, ch. iii. v. 15.

There is another line, which I cannot at this moment place my hand on, that has been frequently selected as the theme of one of the most delightful anthems in Canterbury Cathedral, and to which some of the young choristers there have given the most charming effect, so much so, that after a breathless silence and sympathetic attention of a most numerous congregation, I have sometimes heard pass from one to another, in pious admiration of the melodious powers of the youth, in a subdued whisper, the word "beautiful" involuntarily escaping from many lips on every side. The sentence is—Who was, and is, and is to come.

The literal translation of the epitaph in Lavenham Church, is as follows:—

That which a being was, What is it? show;
That being which it was, it is not now;
To be what 'tis, is not to be, you see;
That which now is not, shall a being be.

The following in the parish church of Horsham, Sussex, has a slight addition.

Quod fuit esse—quod est;
Quod non fuit esse—quod esse.
Esse quod est—non esse quod est:
Non est—erit—esse.
Vita malis plena est,
Mors pia—preciosa Corona.
Post Vitam Mors est:
Post mortem Vita beata.

What we have been, and what we are,
This moment, or the time that's past,
We cannot possibly compare,
With what we are to be at last.

Tho' fancy's flight has often ranged,
In search of form that ne'er has been;
We yet shall into that be changed
By ear unheard—with eyes unseen.

Like Him transform'd whose God-like soul,
Lay hid beneath the human shrine,
From flesh and sense, and earth's controul,
At once immortal and divine.

Life cursed with evils, then shall cease,
While faith, the Crown of glory shows;
For death succeeds to life, and this
At death commenced, unending flows.

Words of similar import occur in the Revelations, chap. i. verse 8. I am Alpha and Omega, etc.

Harbledown, August 20. M. D.

ADDISON'S RE-EDITED WORKS.

Addison's Works have again appeared; but in a new form, and with highly commendable additions. Bishop Hurd's edition, hitherto considered the most complete, having become scarcely possible of attainment, the new edition has opportunely been published to supply its place at a much less cost. The new edition comprises six volumes, the first four of which and a smallportion of the fifth contain all that constituted Bishop Hurd's edition; thus nearly two volumes are added from unpublished manuscripts, and in all nearly two hundred and fifty letters, wholly superseding for library purposes and utility all previous editions of this celebrated English classic.

In vol. v. p. 365, is printed a letter from Addison to Stepney, under the date 1707, which should have been placed to Dec. 17, 1706, and followed in at p. 356, after the letter dated Dec. 13.

Addison's letter, dated Dec. 20, pp. 356-7, transmitted to Stepney the news received from 'Lisbon, Dec. 17th.' that heading, therefore, at p. 356 is in error, Addison being then in London, not at Lisbon.

Addison's allusion, p. 365, 'They say Jack Howe, Mr. Blathwaite, and Prior shake,'* derives an interesting explanation from the amusing letter addressed by Prior to Lord Halifax, as the friend of Addison, who was under the immediate patronage of Lord Sunderland. These letters are truly valuable as illustrative of the times, and adducing personal details which have not hitherto been available to the biographer or poetical historian.

Duke Street, Westminster, Feb. 4. 1707.

My Lord,—It is too late to recapitulate the differences that have happened between us, or to dispute the reasons that occasioned them; it is properer at present to thank you for your generosity and assistance whenever you saw any danger threaten the man, whom you once honoured with the title of your friend. I know a great many ill people have endeavoured to calumniate me to your Lordship and to some of your friends, but I hope you know me well enough not to believe them, and though I may suffer the misfortune, I desire you to think I will not (as I have not hitherto) any way deserve the blame.

I am very much obliged to Sir James Montagu for his kind concerns in my poor affairs, and take this opportunity of assuring your Lordship that my respects to yourself and family are inviolable; and I appeal to him if, in all my discourses and actions, I have not upon all occasions, testified the truth of what I now write. I know no otherwise than from the rumour of the town, and a half intimation from a great man, who has always promoted my small interest, if I am to be continued in my present station or commanded elsewhere; in either case, I have reason to hope, my fortunes may not be diminished. The favour I would, therefore, desire of your Lordship is to mention me to my Lord Sunderland, with whom in every station (whilst I have the honour to continue in the service) I must have affairs, that his Lordship would receive me as a man who has obligations to my late Lord, his father, and who, by my diligence and duty in her Majesty's service, would deserve his favour and protection.

I must detain your Lordship one moment longer, amongst many prose afflictions, I have one that is poetical. Some rogue of a bookseller has made a very imperfect collection of what he calls my writings; the whole is mutilated, names printed at length, and things written near twenty years since mingled with some written the other day, in such a manner as may do me harm; part of *The Mouse* is likewise inserted, which I had little to say to, otherwise than as I held the pen to what Mr. Montagu dictated. I mention this, my Lord, desiring your Lordship to consider this book was printed without my knowledge or consent, and I add to it, that since I had the unhappiness of being separated from your Lordship's company, I never have written anything that could possibly merit yours or any of my friends' displeasure. I am ashamed to be your debtor so long as to pecuniary matters; in others, my Lord, your Lordship sees in what manner I desire to continue my obligations to you.

I am, with very great respect,
My Lord, your Lordship's most obedient
and most humble servant,
M. PRIOR.

Among the letters is one, dated June 27, 1710, from that distinguished antiquary, Sir Andrew Fountaine, to Swift, in reference to Addison; but so rich and racy in its invective and smartness of raillery that it is here extracted, in the hope that it will afford no little gratification to the reader.

I neither can nor will have patience any longer: and, Swift, you are a confounded son of a ——. May your half acre turn to a bog, and may your willows perish: may the worms eat your Plato, and may Parvisol* break your snuff-box. What! because there is never bishop in England with half the wit of St. George Ashe, nor ever a Secretary of State with a quarter of Addison's good sense; therefore you cannot write to those that love you, as well as any Clogher or Addison of them all. You have lost your reputation here, and that of your bastard, the Tatler, is going too; and there is no way left to recover either, but your writing. Well, 'tis no matter; I'll e'en leave London. Kingsmill is dead, and you don't write to me. Adieu.

Whiston, bookseller, at the Boyle's Head in Fleet Street, in an unpublished note on his father's life, in the Biographical Dictionary, writes: William Whiston being in company with Mr. Addison, Sir R. Steele, Mr. Secretary Craggs, and Sir Robert Walpole, they were busily engaged in a dispute whether a secretary of state could

* Addison, in defence of Garth and the Whigs, was politically opposed to Prior, who found the former a formidable opponent. His contempt of Prior induced the latter to level a shaft at him, at the end of his *Alma*, in the following lines:

For Plato's fancies what care I?
I hope you would not have me die
Like simple Cato in the play,
For anything that he can say.

Lord Halifax and Prior were also estranged by the Tory affinities of the latter; the Whigs were in the ascendant.

* Parvisol was the Dean's steward.

be an honest man? Whiston not intermeddling with it, was pressed to declare his opinion, which at length he did, by saying he thought honesty was the best policy, and if a Prime Minister would practise it he would find it so. To this Mr. Craggs replied, It might do for a fortnight, but it would not do for a month. Whiston asked him if he had ever tried it for a fortnight? to which, he making no reply, the company gave it for Mr. Whiston.

QUAINT EPITAPH.

The epitaph in Current Notes, p. 55, stated by your correspondent H. J. L. to have been recently placed in Whittlesea Churchyard reminds me of one I have heard quoted, though I cannot tell where it is to be found. Indeed I am of opinion that the Whittlesea epitaph is taken from it. It is as follows—

Weep not for me, my dearest dear,
I am not dead, but sleeping here;
With patience wait, prepare to die,
And then you'll come to sleep with *I*.
I do not weep, my dearest dear;
For I have wed a neighbour near.
I cannot come to sleep with thee,
For I must home to sleep with *she*.

August 9. M.

THE GRAVE TELLS NO TALES.

The publication of Lord Chesterfield's Letters in 1774, created such a disgust in the mind of the Hon. Frederick Keppel, bishop of Exeter, that to prevent any such similar occurrence in respect to himself, he by a codicil to his will, directed his Executor to bury in the coffin with him all manuscripts which should be found in his bureau. He died Dec. 27, 1777; and on examination, the manuscripts were no other than a collection of letters which he had received in the course of his life from some distinguished personages abroad and at home.

August 11. H. P.

PORSON, though so admirable a scholar, wrote very little either Latin or Greek, and when he did, his style was rather of a witty than of a grave character. He was very fond of charades, of which the following is an example:—

TO MISS LAURA CROW.

Te primum incauto nimium propriusque tuenti
Laura mihi subito subripuisse queror,
Nec tamen hoc furtum tibi condonare recusem
Si pretium tali solvere merce velis:
Sed quo plus candoris habent tua colla secundo
Hoc tibi plus primum frigoris intus habet
Jamque sinistra cavâ cantavit ad illice totum
Omnia, et audaces spes vetat esse ratas.

T. F.

A translation of the preceding would be acceptable.
Ed.

Among the Corporation Papers in the Archives of Coventry, is the following interesting document in reference to the author of the Britannica Depicta, the translator of Virgil, and the publisher of several ponderous folios, enriched by the graphic labours of Hollar and other distinguished engravers.

May the 3rd, 1676.

Received the kind bounty of the City of Coventry, by the hands of Alderman Thomas King, being five pound, and is for a first volume of Britannica, bound and presented to the said City,

I say received by me,
JOHN OGILBY.

Witness
Will. Morgan,
Aquila Garfield.

CHRISTMAS CUSTOM IN NORFOLK.

Should the following notice of a custom, formerly prevalent at Tibenham in this county, be worth inserting in Current Notes, it is at your service.

An old farm labourer informed me, that when a young man, he lived at a farm to which was attached two large orchards, from which a large quantity of cyder of two qualities was made; that at Christmas the best cyder was tapped, and so long as the yule log or Christmas block was burning, say for some ten or twelve days, the servants had it in common.

The worst or slowest burning log was held in reserve by the servants till Christmas-tide, and till that was consumed, a small piece excepted, which was retained till another year for the purpose of setting fire to the new yule log, the general beverage of the family was the best cyder, of which two or more casks were made expressly for the occasion at least a twelve-month or more before it was required.

Such was then the good feeling between employers and the employed, that a sincere regard existed on each side, that both men and maids considered it to be their duty to contribute by every endeavour, by their service in every way, and on all occasions, to their master's comfort and prosperity—such good and kind feeling, arising from a pure and sincere love of regard and respect existing between them, is now become very rare indeed, and I much fear that with all our so-called enlightened education and improvements, they have not hitherto tended to exalt or improve the moral conduct of the rising generation.

The difference or distinction between master and servant is now so distant, that it hardly seems to be the same race of people; no reciprocity of feeling is shewn as formerly, and the family having ceased to have their servants taking their meals and lodging in the same house, has done much injury to their morals; they are no longer under the eye of the master, and when the work of the day is done, they seem habitually to frequent those pests of society—the beer-houses.

Norwich, August 8. GODDARD JOHNSON.

INEDITED LETTER—WOOLLETT TO BARTOLOZZI.

Sir,—I have heard with great surprise that I lay under your displeasure, and it would be with great reason that I should, was the conduct with which I am charged in the smallest degree true; but Sir, on the contrary, I have always regarded and spoken of you as the first artist in this kingdom, and so far from speaking disrespectfully of your abilities in drawing, it is a frequent expression of mine, 'I wish I could draw like Bartolozzi.'

I find it has been represented to you that I have found fault with a design for a fan, which you exhibited last year at the Royal Academy. In answer to which I positively declare that it is impossible I should express any dislike to a particular drawing of so much merit, when I am so great an admirer of your works in general: my collecting your prints, together with the testimony of every artist of reputation with whom I am acquainted, and have heard me speak of you, must sufficiently prove the opinion that I entertain of you as an artist, and the malignant insinuations and aspersions of those persons that have imposed upon you must, of course, fall to the ground; this I am ready to prove to you by the evidence of many, if you will be so good as to inform me who are my accusers. This, I conceive, I have a right to ask, in order to clear up my injured reputation.

I am, Sir, with great respect,
Your most obedient servant,
WM. WOOLLETT.

Green Street, Leicester Fields,
Jan. 24th, 1781.

The Bartolozzi family are now extinct. The last was the late Madame Vestris. She was the daughter of Gaetano Bartolozzi, an engraver of no repute—the skill of Francesco Bartolozzi did not descend to his son. Where or when his daughter Lucia Elizabeth was born, has long been a question in dispute, and many wagers have been the result, but never satisfactorily decided, and Madame constantly evaded the enquiry—she has said her birth did not occur in England—but the year is now stated to have been 1797.

In a volume of autographs of Theatrical Celebrities, Madame, while a Lessee, wrote the following lines—

I'm that Belle Sauvage, only rather quicter,
Like Mrs. Nelson turn'd a Stage Proprietor.

Olympic Theatre, ELIZA VESTRIS.
March 28, 1835.

L. E. Vestris, or Eliza Vestris, were her usual signatures. Mrs. L. E. Mathews, after a long and painful illness, died on Saturday, the 8th inst., at Gore Lodge, Fulham, in her 59th year; and in the morning of Thursday, the 13th, was interred at Kensal Green Cemetery. The funeral observances were very private, one mourning-coach, containing Mr. Charles Mathews, the physician who attended Madame in her last illness, and Mr. Morison, a private friend, followed the hearse.

ALONE IN THE WORLD.

The vaunted 'Well-beloved' Louis the Fifteenth died in 1774, and the new ministry, appointed on the advent of his successor, having more kindly views, were determined to abate the iniquitous oppressions of the preceding reign. Thus, one of the leading acts of their clemency was an inspection and revision of the registers of those confined as state prisoners in the Bastille, but in reality in many cases immured there solely under the malign influence of individuals. Many were liberated, and among them one who had been pent within the chill and damp walls of a narrow cell during forty-seven years. Closed from all communication with mankind, beholding no face, nor hearing any voice but that of the gaolers, who in succession, had daily to provide him with food during nearly half a century, he had endured all these horrors with untiring constancy, although wholly unapprised of the existence or fate of his family or relations.

At length, an unusual noise broke upon the stillness of the confines of his cell, the door opened, and a voice he had not heard before bade him—Come forth! He scarcely knew the import of the words, and, not daring to trust his senses, fancied it a dream. The mandate repeated, he advanced with hesitation, and with trembling steps reached the stairs of his prison; bewildered and confounded as he passed on, the hall, the court, and every space that met his eye seemed immense and vast beyond bounds. Stupified with the novelty of all he saw, his sight became incapacitated to sustain the strong glare of the broad daylight, and he stood still with fixed eyes, unable to move or speak, questioning the reality of his own feelings. Admonitory accents fell on his ear to proceed, and with some further efforts, in which he was partially assisted, he passed beyond the main entrance.

With some consideration, a carriage there awaited to conduct him to where he said he had formerly lived, but the motion affrighted and hurt him. He begged to be released, and supported on his way, was led to the street in which was his former habitation; but the house was no longer there! on its site stood proudly a public edifice. None of the objects which were there in his youth had remained; the buildings, of which he had retained a partial recollection, had all changed their appearance. Even the passers by were to him a new race, and though he looked anxiously in their faces, he knew them not, nor did they know him. His remembrance of all things seemed passed, and he stood motionless and bewildered. Surrounded by living beings, he recognised no one, nor they him; tears involuntarily relieved the acuteness of his feelings, and in the earnestness of his sorrow, he entreated to be conducted back to his lost home—the cold and dreary cell.

His antiquated appearance, his prison garb, the mention of the Bastille, and his imploring to experience it again as an asylum soon caused a great crowd to congregate. The oldest present thought of others still older, who might be able to afford him some solution of his inquiries respecting his family. At last an old man appeared, whose infirmities had rendered him unable to

work for fifteen years, but who had been a servant in his family—he failed to recognise his former master, and in reply to the inquiries as to his wife, said she had died of grief and want thirty years gone by; his agonised questions as to his children, elicited simply some were dead, others had gone abroad, but where no one knew. No one of the friends he had borne in recollection were then living, and the old man's answers were uttered with all the stolidity and indifference of one who was speaking of events ordinarily long since passed and almost forgotten.

Wretched and unhappy, he felt the excess of his misery more amidst the crowd of strangers, no one of whom was in a condition to sympathise with him, though in a state of freedom, than before, when in his frightful solitude. He sought the minister by whose compassion he had been set at liberty, and throwing himself at his feet, begged of him to be sent back to the prison from whence he had freed him. Who, said he, can survive all his friends, all his relations, an entire generation? Who can hear of the loss of every one who was dear or known to him, without wishing for himself the solace of the grave? All these deaths, which come one by one and by degrees upon other men, have fallen upon me in one instant. Separated from society, I lived by myself; here, I can neither live by myself nor with strangers, to whom my despair can only appear as a dream. It is not to die that is terrible; it is, to die the last.

The minister, moved with commiseration, directed everything that humanity could suggest to alleviate his sorrows. His old servant was placed in attendance on him, and with him he retired into a seclusion in the heart of Paris, hardly less solitary than the cell that had been his abiding place for nearly half a century. His only consolation was to converse with him about his wife and children, with one constant result; a short period terminated his existence, and the thought that to the last appeared uppermost in his mind, was the impossibility of his ever encountering any one who could say to him—we have seen each other before—in fact, that he was alone in the world.

Herbert Croft, in his biography of Dr. Young, the author of the Night Thoughts, states—Young and his housekeeper were ridiculed with more ill nature than wit, in a kind of novel called The Card, published by Kidgell, in 1755; under the names of Dr. Elwes and Mrs. Fusby. Who and what was this Kidgell? I have met with his name before, in no very praiseworthy situations.

Chelmsford, August 10. S. C.

John Kidgell, rector of Godstone, in Surrey, he fled, not for his merits, from England, and died at Brussels, in May, 1781.

P. 57, col. 2, line 3 from foot, for Mousehouse, read Mousehole.

HENHAM EVENING BELLS.

Hark! now I hear those ev'ning bells,
What doleful tales their music tells:
Of pleasures past, of hours mis-spent,
Of youth to senseless vices lent;
Of childish joys in days of yore,
Of merry playmates now no more;
Of all that frightful change of things,
Which each succeeding season brings.
Softly ring on, melodious peal;
Your soft persuasive strains I feel,
Which give refreshment to the soul,
By calling to its proper goal:
For though each soul entrancing knell,
Seems some fair image lost, to tell
Of love entomb'd, of friendship dead,
Of infant hopes for ever fled;
And calls to mind the early time
When first I heard your melting chime
At life's and daylight's infant dawn,
When cocks first blew the trump of morn,
Bounding, I sallied forth to play
Free—on the festive holiday.
Since which old times, the silv'ry head
Of fond paternal counsel's dead;
The child that was the ev'ning star
Of youthful pastime dwells afar;
The trusty dog, my father's pride,
Is swallow'd in Time's gulphing tide;
And fierce Erynnis tramples down
Those childish hopes, we now disown.
Yet still! ye soft melodious bells,
A tale of joy your music tells
To faithful flocks assembled here,
To drink of holy water clear;
For in the dusky cloister damp,
Where Vigilance hath lit her lamp,
The white wing'd angel Hope appears,
And my desponding genius cheers.
Hark! yet aloud the tuneful bells
Are sounding, still their magic spells
Which quell all harms and call the sheep
The vigils of pure Faith to keep,
Cheering the soul to hold in view
For faithful flocks, green pastures new
In those bright realms, fair Virtue's seat,
Where kindred souls again will meet.
The taper steeple points the way:
The cock upon the vane doth say—
Then follow me, nor turning round
To ev'ry blast that sweeps the ground;
But by a watchfulness on high,
Bend to the spirit of the sky.
Then jingle on, melodious bells,
Of many hopes your music tells.

Quendon. T. F.

Argument may be overcome by stronger argument, and force by greater force, but truth and force have no relation—nothing in common, nothing by which the one can act upon the other. They dwell apart, and will continue to do so till the end of time.—*Pascal.*

NOON-DAY LINES PRESENTED WITH SOME VIOLETS.

Did Letty know when pearl'd with dew,
How sweet these graceful violets grew,
Beside the thorny brake;
Or, breathe the fragrant morning air
O'er beds of primroses blooming fair—
Your pillow you'd forsake.

For paler than th' autumnal leaf,
Or the wan hue of pining grief,
The cheek of Sloth will grow;
Perfume, nor wash, nor scented ball,
Can Nature's ruddy tints recall,
When once you let them go.

ORDER OF THE BLUE JACKET OR HUNTING COAT.

When Louis the Fourteenth had once established the opinion that he was the unlimited lord of the greatest monarchy in Europe, the slightest marks of favour became objects of ambition to men, who, like the French, are eager for all reputation. In 1661, Louis made a promotion of eight prelates and sixty-three knights of the order of St. Esprit, which had not since 1633, received any new knights, and seems to have fallen into neglect, if not contempt.

On this occasion, the King, in his Instructions to his Son, remarks that 'no recompence costs less to our people, and none touches hearts that are rightly constituted, more than these distinctions of rank, *which are almost the first motive of all human actions*, but especially of the greatest and the most noble; it is besides, one of the most visible effects of our power to give, when we please, an infinite value to that which in itself is nothing.'* It is indeed one of the most surprising instances of the power of kings, and the fatuity of subjects! On the same solid grounds the king subsequently created a new order, and called it by his own name. The *just-a-corps à brevet* was another, and very peculiar invention for distinction: it was a coat or jacket of blue, embroidered with gold and silver, similar to one used by the king, which entitled the wearer to accompany his Majesty in his promenades at St. Germain, and to belong to his parties to Versailles or Marly. One of these brevets, signed by Louis, and countersigned Guenegaud, is preserved in the collection of the works of Louis the Fourteenth. Only a certain number were allowed; and on the death of a member, his jacket became as great a subject of contention as the armour of Achilles in the Grecian army.† This desirable distinction seems at bottom to have been a hunting coat.

* Œuvres de Louis Quatorze, tom. i. p. 143.

† Memoirs of the Affairs of Europe, 1824, pp. 145-146. The editor says, there was no further question of them after the peace of Aix-le-Chapelle in 1679; this does not appear to be the case. St. Simon talks of seeing the sons of the Dauphin dressed in them, and Dangeau mentions the death of a person who had the *just-a-corps rose*, long after the period mentioned. The distinction of *just-a-corps bleu*, and *just-a-corps rose*, is a mystery which my researches do not enable me to explain.

NOTES BY A BOOKSELLER.*

JOHN GAY, the ingenious poet, whom Pope styles—

Of manners gentle, of affections mild;
In wit a man, simplicity a child.

Yet this character is proved untrue by the strong passions of which he was possessed, and the disappointment of which hurt him much, as we find in his life. I believe his Beggars' Opera did more harm to unthinking youth than all that Collins, Tindal, or Chubb ever wrote, for that gilded over iniquity with the veil of applause, and makes a hero of a debauched highwayman; encourages a daring thoughtlessness, and destroys the regard for serious consideration so absolutely necessary for our proper behaviour in life. Too feelingly I speak this, as I am persuaded I received much mischief from the strong impression this piece had on my lively imagination, and laid the foundation of the great misery I now suffer in a most exquisite degree.

His Achilles in Petticoats, is an absurd composition, not founded upon any history, or fable, or probability, and full of indelicacy. His Pastorals are natural and pleasing, ingenious and decent. The Trivia, a humourous and elegantly descriptive poem, but an heroic poem on so trivial a subject can only be looked on as a burlesque on some serious heroic poem, I should suspect it on Addison's Campaign.

WILLIAM GEORGE, D.D, a very learned, friendly, and facetious gentleman, was bred at Eton School, and then at King's College, Cambridge. Married Catherine, a daughter of Dr. Henry Bland, Master of Eton School, afterwards Provost of Eton and Dean of Durham. When Dr. Bland resigned the school, Dr. George succeeded as Head Master from the station below it. He was an excellent Grecian and good critic. He was a King's Chaplain, and I have often with pleasure dined with him at their room, for he was very agreeable company. He had good nature, but no politeness of behaviour, which was fully compensated by his open sincerity. He was a kind friend to me. He loved learned men, and was a ready encourager of their labours. His lady, very agreeable and good tempered at all times, studied to oblige him in everything. Oh! had mine in the year 1758 done so, misery had not come as it did, and vexation brought despair and ruin on poor ME, by overheating my anger.

Dr. George published nothing that I know of, but a sermon preached before the House of Commons, about 1730. Some years before he died, he was promoted to be Provost of King's College and Dean of Lincoln. He died in 1756, leaving a handsome provision for his widow and two daughters.

He left a well-chosen library, which was sold to

* John Whiston, a son of the celebrated William Whiston, and formerly associated with Osborne and others, as the publishers of the Biographical Dictionary, 1761-2, in eleven volumes, 8vo. These unpublished notes are copiously embodied in a copy of that work intended for a new edition, and are replete with much personal and private anecdote.

Lord Spencer for fourteen hundred guineas, which was, I think more by two hundred guineas than their value, for I estimated them carefully.*

THE BARRIECO, OR BARAECO?

The Estii, a tribe of Sclavonians, who inhabited the province now called Esthonia, on the Baltic, appear at a very remote period, to have migrated into Spain, and occupied a tract of country in Castile, comprehending Salamanca, Ciudad Rodrigo, Gallegos, and the banks of the Coa river; for Tacitus states that these wild people venerated the goddess mother under the image of a wild boar, which they carried with them on all their expeditions, and at this hour the rudely carved granitic images of a wild boar, or bear, or hippopotamus, are to be seen built into the Roman bridges of Salamanca and Ciudad Rodrigo, and also near the churches of Gallegos and San Felices, on the Coa. The name given by the Spaniards to these figures, is the Barrieco, or the roaring animal, from *barus*, grave; and *echo*, sound. Masdeu, in his Historica Critica de Espana, vol. v. p. 44, mentions the Barrieco or Baraeco, as a divinity unknown to the Romans. In the territory of Lisbon, was found the following inscription—

AMMINVS
ANDIATTAE. F. BANDIAE. BARIAICO.
VOTUM L. M. S.

and another at Ruanes in Gallicia, thus:—

RAVVEANA. BARAECÒ
AFER
ALBINI. F. TVROLVS
V. S. L. M.

but Masdeu was unable to render any explanation of these inscriptions, the Baraeco, being as he observes, the most obscure article of the ancient mythology of Spain; it would seem however, to have been to this divinity that the Romans applied the appellation of Numen Porcinum.

> Judæus licet et *porcinum numen* adoret
> Et cœli summas advocet auriculas
> Ne tamen et ferro succideret inguinis oram
> Et nisi nudatum solveret arte caput.
> Petronii Arbitri Fragmenta, ed. Jo. Maire. p. 101.

The peasantry of Exmoor, in Devonshire, still call a sow, a Baarge; a corruption of Baraeco, or rather the latter word is derived from the former, which is Celtic.

Can any reader of Current Notes, render any further elucidation of this little known mythological subject.

A. N.

* The acquisition of this collection to the Spencer library was extremely fortunate. In that portion are the greatest rarities in English Literature, which still enrich that glorious depositary. In Whiston's time, early English poesy was at a low ebb, but among Dr. George's books were many uniques, which were probably considered mere trifles, waifs, or strays in the Cathedral library of Lincoln. Be it as it may, the late Dr. Dibdin took a hint, had a dig at the same mine, and produced a nugget—the Lincolne Nosegay. Ed.

JOHNSTON'S LIFE OF LINACRE.

Among the memorable families of Derbyshire is that of Linacre; and that county has been accredited as the birthplace of Thomas Linacre, the eminent physician; he was the tutor and friend of Sir Thomas More, Physician to King Henry the Eighth; and Founder of the College of Physicians in London. Sometime since being desirous of the printed life of that eminent man, I was told it was *not procurable*. Can any reader of Current Notes state the reason? for the party I employed was unable to give me the slightest information.

Edinburgh, August 17. M. D.

The reason is not generally known, and when told may possibly startle our correspondent. The volume was printed in 1835, 8vo. pp. 264. There were 750 copies printed at the joint expense of Mr. Robert Graves, the editor, and Mr. Edward Lumley, the publisher. A few were demanded by public libraries under the copyright act, and some few copies were forwarded to the reviewers. The Literary Gazette denounced it vehemently, although the copy sent to the Editor of that Journal, subsequently became the property of the writer, *wholly uneut*. The book was advertised, but only one copy was called for by one of the wholesale houses in the Row, and the volume was soon after thus disposed of—Messrs. Graves and Lumley retained each twenty-five copies; and the residue, more than 650 copies, was sold in quires to the paper maker, at nine shillings per ream.

Dr. Johnston in this work, places the birth of Linacre to about the year 1460, at Canterbury.

ROYAL BOOK-BORROWER.

August 31, 1422, being the Monday next following the Feast of the decollation of St. John the Baptist, between two and three o'clock in the morning, died at Bois Vincennes in France, Henry the Fifth, King of England. History has proudly distinguished him as a warrior, but he was disposed to reading, and in the paucity of books in the royal library was constrained to borrow from his subjects, and after his decease several were claimed by their owners.

In 1424, the Countess of Westmoreland presented a petition to the Privy Council, representing that the late king, Henry, had borrowed from her a book, containing the Chronicles of Jerusalem, and the Expedition of Godfrey of Boulogne, and praying that an order might be issued under the privy seal for the restoration of the said book. It was granted with much formality.

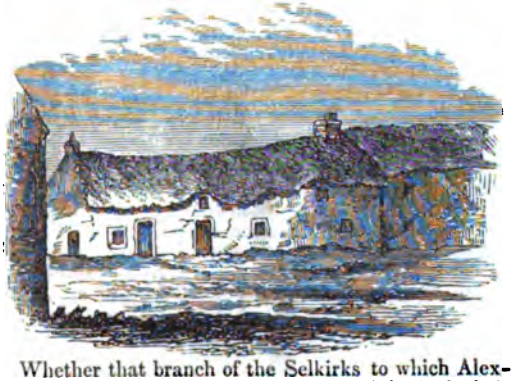
John, prior of Christ Church, Canterbury, also presented a similar petition to the Privy Council, stating that the late king had borrowed from his priory a volume containing the works of St. Gregory; that he had not returned it, but that in his testament he had directed its restoration. It was then in the possession of the Prior of Shine (now Shene, near Richmond), who refused to relinquish it. The Council, after mature deliberation, directed a precept, under the privy seal, to be sent to the Prior of Shine, requiring him to restore the volume, or to appear before the Council to state the reasons of his refusal.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXIX.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [SEPTEMBER, 1856.

NEW FACTS RESPECTING ROBINSON CRUSOE.

The original of De Foe's Robinson Crusoe, it is now generally admitted was Alexander Selkirk or Selchraig, a native of the parish of Largo, in Fifeshire. Several families of the same name resided at the time in the same place, and had long been settled in the fishing village of Nether Largo, romantically situated on the margin of the German Ocean. Here, about a mile distant from the parish kirk, was the spot of Alexander Selkirk's birth, in or about 1676; and although the year has not been certified by any entry in the parochial registry of Baptisms, nor in any known record, still the house in which he was born is well authenticated, and remains in much the same primitive condition in its form as when built. In the annexed view, it is engraved for the first time —



Whether that branch of the Selkirks to which Alexander was more immediately related inherited their quarrelsome habits from their father or their mother, the latter of whom it appears was a person of an unsteady and discontented nature, or as quaintly admitted in her own words 'of a troubled spirit,' it would be idle to attempt to determine; yet certain it is, that the scenes of family strife, which occurred within the house above represented, were the immediate cause of his leaving that home, and assuming a position in life, which by the graphic pen of De Foe has eternised him as a hero of imperishable notoriety.

The Selkirk family appear to have been naturally turbulent, and from the Sessional records, it is clear, that Alexander's elder brother John, in 1685, a married man with a family, also at times afforded the Kirk Session occasion to anathematise his dissolute conduct. During the summer of 1693, he was 'rebuked' for being drunk, and striking some of his neighbours; again, in the autumn of the same year, he, with a namesake, did penance 'for being drunk in a mercat at Leven;' other instances might be adduced from the same unerring record of the attempts to reform their ill doing.

Alexander Selkirk's occupation is not stated, probably he followed his father's calling, that of a tanner and shoemaker; his reprehensible conduct however in 1695, placed him under the ban of the Kirk Session, to avoid the oppressive tyranny of which, it is recorded, he fled to sea, and hence commenced a career that at a later period earned him a never-dying name in the annals of the world. The Sessional registers notice —

August 25. The qulk day, Alexander Selchraig, son to John Selchraig elder, in Neither Largo, was delated for his undecent carriage in the church. Ordered to be cited before the Session.

August 27. The qulk day, Alexander Selchraig called, but did not compear being gone away to the sea. This business is continued till his return.

When he returned does not appear, but he was at home in 1701, and took a prominent part in some family squabbles, which occasioned the following recorded proceedings in the Sessional register of that year.

Nov. 18. John Guthrie delated John Selcraige elder, and his wife Euphan Mckie, and Alexander Selcraig, Andrew Selcraige, for disagreement together; and also John Selcraige and his wife Margaret Bell. [All ordered to appear on 25th inst.]

Nov. 25. Euphan Mckie confessed that she desired to be separate from her husband, but she said she was of a troubled spirit, and that she thought her words should not be laid hold one; she said she is now in better termes with her husband.

John Selcraige elder being enquired what was the occasion of the tumult in his house, said, he knew not, but that Andrew Selcraige having brought in a canefull of salt watter of which his brother Alexander did through mistake take a drink, and he laughing at him for it, his brother Alexander came andbeat him; upon which he rūne out of the house and called his brother John. John Selcraig elder being again questioned what made him to sit one the floor with his back at the door? he said, it was to keep doun his sone Alexander who was seeking to go up to get his pistole, and being enquired, what he was to do with it? he said, he could not tell.

Alexander Selcraige called, compeared not, because he was at Coupar: he is to be cited *pro secundo* against the next Session.

John Selcrage younger being questioned concerning the tumult in his father's house on Nov. 7, declared that he being called by his brother Andrew came in to it, and when he entered the house, his mother went out, and he seeing his father sitting one the floor with his back at the door was much troubled and offered to help him up, and to bring him to the fire, at which time he did see his brother Alexander, in the other end of the house, casting off his coate, and coming tówards him; whereupon his father did get betwixt

them, but he knew not what he did otherwayes, his head being borne down by his brother Alexander, but afterwards being liberated by his wife, did make his escape.

Margaret Bell, [wife of John S.,] deponed that Andrew Selcraige came running for her husband John, and desiring him to go to his father's house; which he doing, the said Margaret did follow her husband, and coming into the house, she found Alexander Selcraige gripping both his father and her husband, and she labouring to louse Alexander's hands from her husband's head and breast, her husband fled out of doors, and she followed him, and called back again—You fals loon will you murder your father and my husband both? Whereupon he followed her to the door, but whether he beat her or not, she was in so great confusion, she cannot distinctly tell, but ever since she hath a sore pain in her head.

Nov. 29. Alexander Selcraige, scandalous for contention and disagreeing with his brothers compeared and confest that he having taken a drink of salt watter out of the cane, his younger brother Andrew laughing at him for it, he did beat him twice with a stafe. He confest also that he had spoken very ill words concerning his brothers, and particularly he challinged his elder brother John to a combate as he called it, of dry neiffells; he said then he would not care to do it even now, which afterwards he did refuse *and regrate;* moreover, he said several other things, whereupon the Session appointed him to compear before the pulpit against to-morrow, and to be rebuked in face of the congregation for his scandalous carriage.

Nov. 30. Alexander Selcraige according to the Session's appointment compeared before the pulpit and made acknowledgement of his sin in disagreeing with his brothers, and was rebuked in face of the congregation for it: he promised amendment in the strenth of the Lord, and so was dismissed.

The next that is with certainty known of Alexander Selkirk, is the fact, that while sailing master of the ship Cinque Ports, in 1704, he quarrelled with the captain of that vessel, and by way of punishment was put on shore on the uninhabited island of Juan Fernandez in the Pacific Ocean, with a chest containing cloathes, a hatchet, and a firelock, with some powder and shot, and that there he contrived to live till he was picked up by Captain Woodes Rogers, in 1709, and brought to England.

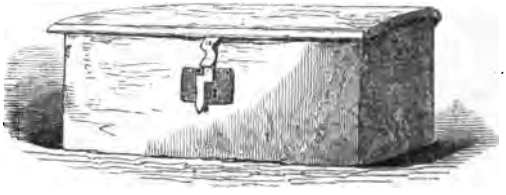
The firelock, his cloathes, chest, and drinking cup, used on the island, were brought home by him to his native village; and with the exception of the firelock, now at Lathallan House, near Largo; the rest remain in the house in which he was born. The house, nominally at least, the property of Mrs. Gillies, a poor widow, is tenanted by her; she is the daughter of John Selkirk, grand-nephew of Alexander Selkirk, is 78 years of age, and has been the mother of a large family, all of whom have preceded her to their last home.

Widow Gillies is the last survivor of the family to which Selkirk belonged, and her circumstances are such, that she is dependant on the benevolence of those who visit her interesting cottage, and the relics of her far-famed predecessor: visitors it must be admitted are not a few, some of them are and have been persons of high literary distinction: among them not the least memorable was the master spirit of the North, Sir Walter Scott, and his publisher Constable, the latter of whom, in consequence of the notices recorded respecting Selkirk in the parish registers, rebound them handsomely at his own cost; the upper side of each volume being inscribed—Rebound for preservation at the expense of Archibald Constable, of Balneil, 1820.

The drinking cup formed of a small cocoa-nut shell; (the simple ornament shewn in the woodcut—

having been the work of Alexander Selkirk,)—is three inches and a quarter deep, by two and a half inches diameter. Mrs. Gillies assured the writer, it had formerly a silver foot and stem, but that her father had disposed of it. Wanting that appendage, Sir Walter and Constable took it to Edinburgh, where the present foot and stem of rosewood nearly three inches high, was added, making the whole about six inches in height. They also added the silver band or fillet, that encircles the outside of the cup, bearing this inscription—The Cup of Alex. Selkirk, whilst in Juan Fernandez, 1704-9.

The cloathes-chest, designated by the family in Mrs. Gillies's youth, 'the cedar kist,' from the top being made of cedar wood, is two feet deep, eighteen inches wide, and three feet long. At one end is a small drawer or 'locker,' with a rudely ornamented lid. The asp of the lock, as shewn by the woodcut—



was a coarse strong sort of fastening, now useless. Upon the top of the slightly rounded lid, are the letters A. S., and the figures 34, being the number of the chest on board Capt. Woodes Rogers' ship at the time he was homeward bound; there are also scratched with some sharp instrument, four angular marks equi-distant; all the contents of the chest as may be premised are few—the drinking cup, a copy of De Foe's Novel of Robinson Crusoe, and the rusted key, long since past use, are all it contains.

Brechin. A. J.

ORIGIN OF SMOKING TOBACCO.

Columbus in his first voyage of discovery, on his returning entered the port of Nipe, in Cuba, Oct. 28, 1492, and on the following day, believing the coast to be that of Asia, left it in hopes of finding the city, which induced by the Indians he believed lay to the westward. On Nov. 2 he deputed messengers to confer with the great king, who was supposed to govern this vast continent, but on the fourth day of their absence, they returned; they had found no Eastern magnificence, but simply a town about twelve leagues distant. These messengers, in the course of their journey, observed for the first time the application of Tobacco to smoking. This was described as being in the form of a roll of a large quantity of the leaf, one end of which was on fire, the smoke being inhaled by the mouth from the other, a process which occasioned the Spaniards much surprise. Thus, observes Navarrete, was the first lesson given to Europeans, of this extraordinary habit, that has become universal; and hence the origin of the so-much prized and so far celebrated Havanas. The natives on being questioned why they adopted the practice, replied as well as they could be understood, that it prevented them from feeling fatigue. Las Casas, the Spanish historian, is the first to exclaim against the custom, being unable on his part to discover the benefit that was to be derived from it; but Navarrete inadvertently supplies a satisfactory answer, one that applies to other states, besides that of Spain, in simply observing—Who would have supposed, that this new and curious vice could have become so general, as to be one of the most profitable sources of revenue to the State? This after all appears to be the most beneficial result of the use of the weed in all the various ways in which it is applied. Capt. Becher, in his recently published admirable work, the Landfall of Columbus, p. 356, observes—Here, as stated by Las Casas, is the origin of smoking tobacco, a practice which however extensive it may be in other countries, has become so general in this, that to the discredit of parents, it is even followed by children! the eternal cigar is seen in the mouth of old and young, even in that of the ragged urchin, who swaggers along not only astonishing those who see him at his early hardihood, but leaving them to speculate how he came by it, considering the price which must have been paid for it. Profitable indeed it is to the State, but indulged in to the cost of the pocket, the health, and the personal comfort of society, as the following statement from an official source of the amount of duty derived from Tobacco in the United Kingdom, for the last three years will substantiate:—

1853 . . .	4,560,827*l.*
1854 . . .	4,751,776*l.*
1855 . . .	4,704,663*l.*

These are tolerably good round sums, contributing to the benefit of the State, if not of its subjects; and as may be added—wholly blown off in a whiff!

PORSON'S LATIN CHARADE.

The very elegant charade attributed to Professor Porson, Current Notes, p. 68, is incorrectly printed. I send you the true version, and the subjoined translation is much at your service, if you should think it worthy of insertion in your very amusing and instructive Current Notes.

TO MISS LAURA CROW.

Te primum incauto nimium propiusque tuenti
Laura mihi subito surripuisse queror;
Nec tamen hoc furtum tibi condonare recusem,
Si pretium tali solvere merce velis;
Sed quo plus candoris habent tua colla secundo,
Hoc tibi plus primum frigoris intus habet;
Jamque sinistra cavâ cantavit ab ilice totum
Omina, et audaces spes vetat esse ratas.

TRANSLATION.

My first, while too fondly I gaze,
To my sorrow, O Laura! you stole;
And yet I the theft could e'en praise,
If you gave me yourself, as a whole;
But your breast, than my second more white,
My first, still more chilling, conceals;
Whilst my whole, from yon oak's airy height,
On the left, my destruction reveals.

Newport, Essex. WILLIAM HILDYARD.

The following is a free rendering of Porson's charade, in Current Notes, p. 68:—

TO MISS LAURA CROW.

Too rashly lifting thy protecting veil,
My stolen first, dear Laura, I bewail:
And yet 'twere venial theft, my lips would say,
Wouldst thou in kindred ware the price repay;
But in thy first, my second's coldness dwells,
The more its whiteness thy fair neck excels;
And hark! my whole perch'd on the hollow oak,
Chides my bold wishes with ill omen'd croak.

CORNIX.

CHRONOGRAMS.—The Epistle Dedicatorie to Sir Miles Sandys' Prudence, the first of the Foure Cardinall Virtues, 1634, duod., ends thus—

pIVs IesVs
HenrICVM SanDys
ab hostIbVs
tVeatVr.
MDCVVVVVVIIII.

In Albury church, Surrey, is the following similarly disposed memorial:—

Res Vrgent eXIsto pVLVere qIbI sepVLtI DorMIVnt.
My body pawn'd to death doth here remain,
As surety for the Soul's return again.

The first embodies the date 1634; the second, 1640.

Harbledown. M. D.

THE LANDFALL OF COLUMBUS.

Captain Becher's recently published volume entitled —The Landfall of Columbus on his first voyage to America, is one of those works which must find its way into all libraries, whether public or private, inasmuch as based on fact and records of an indisputable character, the circumstances relative to the four voyages of this celebrated man, are here fully developed, and the spot on which Columbus first set foot in the New World, is here satisfactorily defined and established. Notwithstanding the hitherto unsuccessful efforts of the most distinguished writers and Nautical Commanders or Historians to determine or solve a question that has been deemed of the highest importance, and embarrassed by difficulties in the solution of no ordinary complicity, as neither Watling Island, the Guanahani of Columbus, nor the Crooked Island Group, his 'Fragrant Isles,' have been surveyed on the liberal scale of Long Island, off the south-west end of which he anchored, and after naming it, simply adds a passing notice in two or three words.

The circumstances in the eventful career of Columbus, whose name can never be forgotten in the annals of the world, though only the eldest son of a humble carder, born at Genoa in 1435, are subjects of the most minute enquiry, and his perseverance, undaunted amidst the greatest perplexities, is held forth for the admiration of all men, and proving Columbus to have been under all positions in himself a person of innate majesty of capacity, notwithstanding the frequent rejections of his proposals for discoveries in the West, his being deceived, taunted and treated as a fanatic, by governments whose antecedents and power ought to have rendered them more susceptible of appreciation. In 1485, we learn that Columbus purposed to proffer his services to England: Henry the Seventh was then on the throne, a monarch whose wisdom and prowess Columbus had heard highly praised, so much so indeed, as to induce him to urge the setting forth of his brother Bartholomew to obtain if possible the patronage of the king; in the meantime however having satisfied his filial piety by seeing his aged father was comfortably provided for, he quitted Genoa for Spain, where subsequently he found a more favourable reception than had been accorded to him by the different governments which he had addressed, and England missed the opportunity of adding one more to the many glories which already enrich her naval renown.

The notes of the Journal of Columbus in his first voyage across the Atlantic Ocean in 1492, are here digested in the more modern form of the Journals kept on board Government ships, by which at a glance are shewn the courses and distances run by him, and elicit the fact that on Thursday, Oct. 11, land was first seen by a seaman named Rodriga de Triana, on board the Pinta, which being a faster vessel was ahead of the Admiral's ship, the Santa Maria. At two in the morning of Friday, land was distinctly seen by the ships at about two leagues distance, and at day-break Columbus landed on an island of the Lucayos, called by the natives Guanahani, now known as Watling Island, 'the Garden of the Bahamas;' was then taken possession of in the name of Ferdinand and Isabella, and named by him in accordance with the dominant religious notions of the time, San Salvador.*

Magellan, the first of the early navigators who shewed the way into the Pacific Ocean has been more fortunate than Columbus, both with the historian and the poet. Even his ship, the Victory, which never returned to Europe, but was lost among the Molucca Islands, has been pictorially represented, and her success celebrated in song; while to realise an illustration of the ships of Columbus has been the difficult task of the antiquary, causing misconceptions and errors among men and writers of the clearest and most resplendent intellects. The arguments of Washington Irving in favour of Cat Island; and those of Baron Humboldt for Turk's Island, are by Captain Becher most successfully analysed, the several courses are traced on an accompanying map, and the vexatious point in dispute may now be considered as definitively settled.

By order dated Barcelona, May 20, 1493, Ferdinand and Isabella conferred on Columbus the dignity of bearing the armorial insignia here represented —

Divested of its official phraseology, that patent would read thus—

Don Fernando and Doña Isabel, etc., In acknowledgment and reward to you Christóbal Colon, our Admiral of the Islands and Mainland discovered by our command, and to be discovered in the Indies in the Ocean Sea; and in remembrance of the great and loyal services which you have performed for us, especially in exposing your person as you have to much risk and labour in discovering the said Islands, and to honour and promote you and your descendants and lineage in perpetuity hereafter, we have thought proper, and it is our desire, and we give you power and authority to bear on your shield of arms, besides those of your own family, a Castle and Lion over them, which we give you for arms, that is to say:

In the dexter quarter, the Castle *or* on a field *vert*. In

* Watling Island, celebrated as it is for being the real San Salvador of Columbus, obtained its later designation from a Captain George Watling, an old buccaneer or freebooter; the latter a word now in use among our friends in the United States, with a Spanish parentage, and called Filibustier, that being the nearest pronunciation of the Spaniards to Freebooter, and is so defined in the dictionaries.

the sinister quarter, a Lion *purpura*, rampant, on a field *argent*. In the dexter base quarter, some Islands *or* in waves of the sea; and in the sinister base quarter, the arms which you are accustomed to bear; which abovesaid arms shall be acknowledged as yours and those of your descendants in perpetuity hereafter.

The biography of Columbus has been most fully discussed, and many important facts established. One, not the least interesting is the definition of the initials which are found attached to Columbus's signature. Isabella having assured him that his desire to be the explorer of regions then unknown should be promoted—that the voyage should be undertaken under her auspices; that as Admiral he should be in the service of the crown, and that his son would also be provided for in his absence, appears to have created such emotions, as moved him even to tears. The certainty of the means of the achieving the fondest, most ardent wishes of his life, and the protection awarded to his family caused the expression of those sentiments, which he maintained ever after, bequeathing them as sacred heir-looms to his successors. Subdued by so much unexpected kindness from the Queen, so soon as his feeling permitted him the utterance, he is said to have exclaimed—I shall henceforth be the Servant of your Majesty! Adopting these words of Columbus as a key to his cipher, which is thus disposed —

S.
S. A. S.
X. M. Y.
Xpo Ferens
El Almirante.

and assuming they are intended to imply Spanish words, the three first lines would be read —

Servidor
Sus Altesas Sacras
Jesus Maria Ysabel

and translated mean—The servant of their Sacred Highnesses Jesus, Maria and Isabella. Thus in assuming the above cipher, Columbus seems to have really expressed what he purposed should remain in perpetuity in his family, that in gratitude for her protection he and his heirs should be the servants of her Majesty. Navarrete has printed all the letters of one size, but this is not in conformity with the custom of Columbus, to which the A. here is of a larger character. The words—Xpo Ferens, are admitted to imply—bearing the Cross; so that the whole translated would stand thus in English—

The Servant
of their Sacred Highnesses
Jesus, Mary, and Isabella,
Bearing the Cross,
The Admiral.

Columbus, soon after his return from his fourth voyage, enfeebled by age and borne down by infirmities, the result of the hardships he had undergone, more particularly in his last voyage, and affected by the loss of his patroness, the Queen Isabella, directed his efforts to the obtaining for his brother Bartholomew a reward for his services, and died May 26, 1506, aged 71. His remains were deposited in the convent of San Francisco at Valladolid. In 1513, they were transferred to the monastery of Cartujos de las Cuevas, in Seville, where were also deposited those of his son Don Diego, who died Feb. 23, 1526. In 1536, the remains of Columbus and his son Diego, were delivered for transfer to the city of Santo Domingo, in the island of Española, where they were interred by the altar, in the cathedral. In 1795, that island having been ceded to France, their ashes were again disturbed, and transferred to Cuba, their last resting place being on the right side of the altar, of the cathedral of the city of Havana.

THE BARRIECO, OR BARAECO.

The boar-shaped Estian divinity Barrieco, or Baraeco, referred to in Current Notes, p. 72, by A. M., as having been worshipped on the banks of the Duero and its tributaries, at a very early period, is of Indian origin. *Varaha*, or the Boar, was one of the ten avatars or descents of Vishnu, the second person of the Hindu Trinity, in his capacity of preserver. He took the form of a boar, the symbol of strength, to draw up and support in his tusks the whole earth, which had been sunk beneath the ocean. One of the *Calpas* or renovations of the universe is thence named *Varaha*. "Waters (alone) there were; this world originally was water; in it the lord of creation moved, having become air; he saw this (earth); and uplifted it, assuming the form of a boar; and then moulded that (earth), becoming Viswacarman, the artificer of the universe." Taittiríya Yajarvéda, quoted in *Asiatic Researches*, vol. VIII., p. 452. When the eight *sactis* or energies of the gods,—female divinities, *matris*, or mothers, exactly like their male principles, "with the same form, the same decoration, and the same vehicle,"—came to fight against the demons, as related in the *Devi Máhátmya*, *Asiatic Researches*, vol. VIII., p. 83, the energy of Hari, *Varahi*, the granter of boons, "assumed the unrivalled form of the holy boar," sitting on a buffalo. This redoubtable goddess it seems to have been who was known under the name of *Frea* or *Fricco*, "mother of the gods," to the tribes inhabiting the countries adjoining the Baltic, (Mallet, *Introd. à l'Histoire de Dannemarck*, pp. 56, et seqq.) and the emblem of whose worship, *insigne superstitionis*, was the image of a wild boar. Eccardus, *De Rebus Franciae Orientalis*, tom. I. p. 409, quoted by Brotier, in his notes to Tacitus, says many vestiges of this superstition still remain in Sweden. The country people, he observes, at that season of the year (February) when the festival of Frea was formerly held, bake loaves shaped like a wild boar, which they put to various superstitious uses. I need scarcely add that Frea or Friga is identified by mythologists with the Greek *Aphroditê* and the Roman *Venus*, and that one of the days of the week takes its name from her.

The Sanscrit term *varaha*, a boar, is evidently the Latin *verres*, the Italian *verro*, the French *verrat*, the

Dutch *varken*, as well as the Spanish *barraco* or *verraco*, and Exmoor *baarge*. Its root is most likely identical with that of the Latin *aper* and German *eber*, which, however, Schœbel, *Analogies Constitutives de la Langue Allemande*, p. 22; analyses into *aa-bär*=the water or marsh beast, defining it "animal fort qui aime le séjour des marécages." *Bär* he derives from the Sanscrit *arks*, which he considers as a secondary form of *arh* strong (Teutonic *urh*, Greek *ari*, *ēr*), and the etymon of the Greek *arktos* and Latin *ursus*. Cognates are the Sanscrit *rks'a*, Zingari or Gypsy *ritsch*, and Suomi or Finnish *karhu*, a bear. From *bär* come the Saxon *bar*, Cornish *bora*, Dutch *beer*, Swedish *borr*, and English *boar*. The root *ark*, with the initial augment *t*, seems to be the Irish and Gaelic *torc* and Welsh *twrch*. The Greek *kapros* has a similar affinity with *aper*. Our *brawn* comes from *aprugnus*, an adnoun formed from *aper*. The Shemitic and Sclavonian tongues, so far as I have been able to trace them, contain no corresponding terms from the same roots; but it is remarkable that the Hebrew *hhazir*, Syriac *hheziro*, and Arabic *hhenzer*, come from a root *hhazīr*, which signifies to transfix, pierce, perforate, *bore*, (Greek *peir-*, Latin *for-*, German *bohr-*, Irish *bear*, etc.) I may likewise mention that the Greek *kapros* denotes not only the male of the wild hog, but the organ of generation or *phallos*, which was used in the rites of Bacchus or Priapus as an emblem of fecundity, like the Hindu *lingam*.

South Shields, Sept. 10. WILLIAM BROCKIE.

The lines which eighteen centuries since, were addressed to a fair Stoic:

To the Immutable Fair one.
Si, nisi quæ forma poterit te digna videri
Nulla futura tua est; nulla futura tua est.

have been deemed inimitable, and for delicacy and point have no resemblance in any other language. The following are among the many attempts which have been made as a Translation.

If, to no charms, thou wilt thy heart resign,
But such as merit, such as equal thine;
By none, alas! by none, thou wilt be moved:
Then thou alone, must by thyself be loved.

If none, but equal charms, thy heart can bind;
Then, to thyself alone, must thou be kind.

If but to one, form'd equally divine,
None you'll incline to, you'll to none incline.

If, saue whose charms with equal splendour shine,
None euer thine can be; none euer can be thine.

Harbledown. M. D.

MORRIS.—Can any Correspondent of Current Notes inform me, whether it is intended to publish the work entitled, Celtic Remains; left in Manuscript by the late distinguished Welsh antiquary, Lewis Morris, Esq.; and if so, by whose care it will be transmitted through the press?

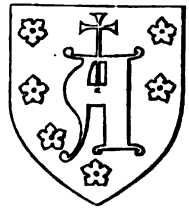
Brecon, September 18. F. S. A.

EARLY MERCHANTS' MARKS.

The following examples of Merchant's marks occur on sepulchral memorials in the churches of St. Margaret and St. Nicholas, Lynn.

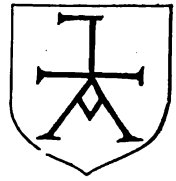
Mackerell in his History of Lynn has noticed these marks, but so incorrectly, and so wretchedly engraved, that I think it would be desirable to perpetuate them in Current Notes.

On the brass of Adam de Walsokne in St. Margaret's church, is the following inscription, incorrectly printed in Mackerell's Collections.



Hic Jacet Adam de Walsokne quondam Burgens Lenn qui obiit quinto die mensis Junii Anno Dni Millesimo Trigentesimo quadragesimo nono . . . . . Margareta uxor ejus in Cleye nata quorum anime per Dei misericordiam in pace requiescant. Amen.

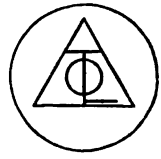
In the same church, is the brass of John Atkin, thus inscribed —



Hic jacet corpus Johannis Atkin, Aldermani, Viri gravissimi, prænobesti, Reiq: hujus Burgi publicæ admodum studiosi, cujus Maioratum A° R. Rs. Jacobi 5° et 13° honorifice ac pie gessit. E Johanna uxore ejus unica duodecim amoris sui pignora suscitavit quorum in vivis tantum modo sunt novem Gulielmus natu-primus; Thomas, Johannes, Setheus, Anna, Clementia, Johanna, Frideswitha, et Margeria. Vixit annos 68 feliciter, 15 die Septembris A°. D^ni^. 1617. Chrō obdormivit.

The Monogram evidently formed of three letters doubtless implied John Atkin, Lynn.

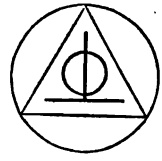
In the chancel of St. Nicholas' church, incised on a sepulchral slab, with this inscription —



Thomas Toll, Esq.
and Alies his wife rest heer,
Til Christ apeare.

Hee / She departed ye 29 / 9 October, 16 53. / 52.

On referring to Mackerell, on the last plate, at p. 269, the monogram adopted by Thomas Toll, which ought to consist of a combination of the three letters of his name, is thus unmeaningly delineated.



Such errors in engraving make the prints in these

devices, which however are few and far between, in many of our County Histories valueless, as more care is required in drawing these marks than even in heraldic insignia. These errors in engraving and printing are the more to be regretted, since out of some twenty or thirty examples noticed by Mackerell, I could in my recent search find only the three here described.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. HOWARD.

CHARTER OAK AT HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT.

On the 21st of last month, August, during a strong gale of wind, the far famed Charter Oak which stood near the City of Hartford, was blown down and fell with a tremendous crash, leaving about six feet of its stem remaining. It must have been a very old tree when Columbus in 1492, discovered the New World.

The appellation of Charter Oak has in more instances than the present, occasioned a requirement of some elucidation, and at no period more than now, could that explanation be more pertinently rendered.

Soon after the restoration of royalty in England, in 1660, the Connecticut colony sent the son of Governor Winthrop of Massachusetts, to England, with a humble and respectful petition to king Charles the Second, in which they solicited a charter under the royal signature. Mr. Winthrop being possessed of a valuable ring that had been presented by king Charles the First, to his grandfather, presented it on his audience to the king, and by this timely incident is supposed to have considerably interested the monarch in his favour. The Charter which passed under the Great Seal, April 20, 1662, established over the colony a form of government of the most liberal tendency, granting the most ample privileges, and confirming the fundamental law of Connecticut for one hundred and fifty-eight years, in fact till the year 1818.

Under James the Second, Connecticut was apparently doomed to suffer from the injustice and violence of the last of the male sovereigns of the Stuart raee. Massachusetts had been deprived of her Charter, and Rhode Island had also been induced to surrender, when in July, 1685, a writ of *quo warranto* was issued against the governor and company of Connecticut. Vane strongly advised the colonial government to comply with the requisition, and surrender the Charter, but it was determined otherwise, neither to appear to defend it, nor voluntarily to surrender it, notwithstanding the repeated applications of Sir Edmund Andros, who had the appointment of Governor of the New England Colonies.

In October, 1687, the Assembly met as usual, and the government according to the Charter continued till the end of the month, when on the last day, Sir Edmund with his suite, and more than sixty regular troops came to Hartford, where the assembly were sitting, demanded the Charter, and declared the government under it to be dissolved.

Even in this emergency, the Assembly were in no way disposed to any resolution involving the surrender of their Charter, or in respect to any motion to produce it. Governor Treat urged the great expense and hardships of the Colonists in planting the country; the blood and treasure they had expended in defending it against both savages and foreigners, and further the dangers and vicissitudes to which he had himself been exposed, therefore to surrender the patent and privileges so dearly bought and so long enjoyed, was as he stated like to giving up his life. The subject was debated and held in suspense until the evening, by which time great numbers of the people were assembled, and among them many sufficiently bold and determined to any enterprise that might be deemed expedient, or necessity require. The Charter was at length brought in and laid upon the table, where the assembly were sitting, but the lights were in an instant extinguished, and Captain Wadsworth of Hartford, in the surprise thus created, silently secured and carried off the patent, which he secreted in a large hollow tree fronting the house of the Hon. Samuel Wyllys, then one of the magistrates of the colony. Those present in the Assembly continued orderly and peaceable; the candles were officiously relighted, but the Charter was gone, nor could any discovery be made either of it, or of the person by whom it had been removed.

Though foiled in the attempt to obtain possession of the Charter, Sir Edmund did not hesitate to immediately assume the reins of government,* which as the minion of a wretched monarch he administered with as much oppression in this, as in the other Colonies, till on the arrival at Boston, of the declaration of the Prince of Orange, Andros was deposed and imprisoned; their former Governor was re-elected, and after an interruption of little more than a year and a half, the people of Connecticut resumed the previous form of government that had been guaranteed to them by the Charter.

The day after the tree had been blown down, the City band performed for two hours solemn music over its prostrate trunk, and at sunset, the bells tolled to express the general regret at the event.

CIVILITY ON SIGN-BOARDS.—I once saw in Charleville, in the county of Cork, a sign which set forth, that the proprietor of the concern was licensed to sell drink with civil usage, the latter commodity at Varese in Italy, is expressed by *cortesia*, and obtains precedence of the grape—*Cortesia con buon vino.* G. D.

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* The records of the Colony state the fact in these words —At a general court at Hartford, Oct. 31, 1687, his excellency Sir Edmund Andros, Knight, and Captain-General and Governor of his Majesty's territories and dominions in New England, by order from his Majesty, James II., King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, the 31st of October, 1687, took into his hands the government of the Colony of Connecticut, it being by his Majesty, annexed to Massachusetts and other Colonies under his Excellency's government. Finis.

MONKEY MONEY.—I have recently met with the phrase 'Monkey's money,' in reference to one man's grinning at another who demanded a sum owing. May I ask, whence does this originate, or has it an allusion only to the ordinary vague chatter of the animal?

Hastings, Sep. 9. E. S.

The French have a proverb 'To pay in Monkey's coin,' *i. e.* to laugh at a man instead of paying him, which is said to be thus derived. The tariff of St. Lewis the Ninth, who reigned in France from 1226 to 1270; for regulating the duties upon articles and produce brought by the gate of the Little Châtelet into Paris, among other items ordained, that whoever brought a monkey into the City for sale, should pay four deniers; but if the monkey pertained to a Merry-Andrew, the owner by causing his monkey to dance and disport before the collector of the dues, was not only exempt from paying any duty for the said monkey, but passed freely with ought else he might have with him.

The same code of dues directed that Jugglers, provided they sang a couplet of a ballad before the toll-gatherer, were to pass exempt from all imposts.

HORACE MISCONSTRUED.

M. De Beauchamps in his Recherches sur les Theatres de France, notices the performance of Voltaire's first drama, Œdipus, which was represented for the first time, on Friday, Nov. 18, 1718. He observes much has been said for and against this drama, which had a prodigious success, and appends a numerous list of printed critical pamphlets which it occasioned; he however seems not to have been aware of the successful ruse that was played off against it, on the first night of its representation. Œdipus was performed on the opening night of the season, the Theatre during the recess had been newly decorated, and on the proscenium, above the curtain, was placed as a motto, the initials —

O. T. P. Q. M. V. D.

These letters created a general interest, and many were the solutions as fitted the comprehensions of the audients, till the witty yet sarcastic Piron, whispered to a few ladies, they were intended to designate —

Œdipe Tragédie pitoyable que Monsieur Voltaire donne.

This was quite sufficient, the slanderous definition flew like lightning, and was heedlessly accepted as the true meaning, the incessant uproar that followed precluded the actors from being heard, and the drama was withdrawn as altogether unsuccessful. During the criticism which it occasioned, the fact of this perversion of the luckless motto transpired, and the real meaning of these mysterious initials being authoritatively made known as implying —

Omne tulit punctum qui miscuit utile dulci;

the drama was again played, the unlucky perversion of the motto was forgotten, and the run followed for forty-five successive nights. The line is from Horace.

THE BEING PUT TO ONE'S SHIFTS.

Gabriel Naudé, Physician to Louis XIII., observes, the ancients in writing made use of waxen tables, called Pugillares; or leaves made of barks of trees: I have seen specimens of each in Italy. They did not make use of paper, for they had no linen; they knew hemp as an herb, but applied it not to this purpose. In the time of Charles VII., of France, 1422-60, linen made of hemp was so scarce that his Queen had but two shifts of that material, and Rabelais, at the end of his third book, mentions hemp as a newly discovered plant, under the term Pentaguellion, which had not been in use above a century.

DERIVATION OF THE TERM, FLINT GLASS?

The words, Flint glass, as descriptive of our most pellucid glass has long been to me a doubtful matter, whether it was so called from the material of which it was manufactured? but on looking over the Proceedings of the British Archæological Association, at Chester in 1849, I find the Rev. T. B. Ll. Browne, the Vicar of Flint, in a paper read before the Association, at Flint, thus alludes to the enquiry —

Flint was very early the seat of considerable metallurgical operations, rendered evident from the fact of numerous Roman and other coins being found at places, the British names of which are indicative of such operations having been carried on there. With respect to the name of Flint, Pennant states he was unable to "assign any derivation of the word, as our country is totally destitute of the fossil usually so called;" in this however, the celebrated Tourist and Antiquary was mistaken, that mineral technically termed *Chert*, being found in great abundance, particularly in many of the lead mines.

The term Flint glass it is highly probable was derived from the fact of its being first manufactured at Flint. Where the present Town-hall stands was formerly glass-works, and a few years since while sinking the foundation of the gateway, at Mr. Haywood's, great quantities of fragments of melting pots and glass were found; and as the mineral flint is a compound part of all kinds of glass, there is no reason to suppose that this term should be applied solely as indicative of that description which is manufactured by the aid of lead, whilst on the other hand, it is highly probable, that the first locality for that part of the glass manufacture should be at a spot where the lead required for its formation could be obtained in abundance, particularly as in addition to the raw materials, the vicinity of Flint has abounded in ancient times with fuel, whether that was derived from forests or mines.

I must confess I am still sceptical, and shall be greatly obliged to any correspondent of Current Notes, who will contribute any notices in reference to the derivation of the term, Flint glass. S. J. H.

LIBERTY SUPPRESSED IN FRANCE.

On the first of October next, all the one and two sous pieces of the copper coinage of France, bearing the head of Liberty, cease to have any currency in monetary payments. The copper coins of one and two liards, and of one centime, bearing the head of Liberty, by a decree of Napoleon III., which was published in the *Moniteur*, enacted these minor symbols of Revolutionary periods to be out of circulation on the first of July last.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXX.] "Takes note of what is done—
By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [OCTOBER, 1856.

GRAVE OF ROB ROY.

Balquhidder, the residence and the scene of many of the exploits of Rob Roy MacGregor, the hero of Sir Walter Scott's highly popular romance of that name; and also the place of his burial, is a Highland parish in the south-west of Perthshire, distinguished by its beautiful lakes and wild scenery. The kirktown or hamlet is about twelve miles from the well known village of Callander, and to the west of the kirk are 'the Braes of Balquhidder,' commemorated in Scottish song by the unfortunate Tannahill.

The widely spread traditions of Rob Roy have eternised in popular recognition the parish of Balquhidder, but it would be idle to adduce any detailed notice of that extraordinary individual, his family history and exploits having been so ably recorded by Sir Walter Scott, in the introduction to his celebrated romance. The passing mention will, therefore, be sufficient, that within his own house, at Balquhidder, he died about 1738, an old man, retaining to the last the same strange characteristics which he had exhibited through a long and adventurous life. His character, it is almost needless to add, had much of the same impetuosity and self-daring which marked the personal conduct and disposition of the English Robert, Earl of Huntingdon, better known as Robin Hood, and of which the concluding stanza of Wordsworth's admirable poem, written on visiting Rob Roy's grave at Balquhidder, renders with no little force a just idea—

> And thus among these rocks he lived,
> Through summer's heat and winter's snow;
> The eagle, he was lord above,
> And Rob was lord below.

On the southern slope of a mountain, with a broadly expanded view, is situated the old parish kirk and burial ground of Balquhidder. The kirk bears the initials of MacGregor, Knight of Glencarnock, and his lady, with the date 1631; but recently, a new fabric, in the old English style of architecture, having been built outside of the burial ground, the former kirk has been unroofed, and thus rendered a picturesque ruin. The burial-place of the MacGregors is at the east end of the old kirk, in that part of the kirk which was called *capbail big*, *i.e.*, the small chapel or chancel. There are three grave-stones pertaining to the family, all are lying closely together, and the most northerly, erected to the memory of Rob Roy's eldest son, Coll or Colin, is raised upon four rude pillars, and bearing the arms of the MacGregors, with these words—

Here lies interred the corps of COLIN MCGREGOR, who died in the year 1735; aged 31 years.

That futurity might know by whom this was raised, it was further inscribed—This stone was erected by Lieutenant John Gregorson, 1770.

The stone, on the south side, no inscription, but having a sword as here represented rudely incised *in pale*—

is commonly, but erroneously, believed to cover the grave of Rob Roy; on the contrary, as the writer has been informed by several intelligent and trustworthy residenters in Balquhidder, this stone denotes the last deposit of Rob's wife Helen, a daughter of Campbell of Glenfalloch, and of one of his sons; while the real resting place of 'the bold outlaw' is below the third or centre stone elaborately ensculpt; by far the most interesting of these memorials of the dead, and like the preceding, is now engraved for the first time.

These monumental stones are all of rough native granite, and from the great similarity of some of the emblems upon that which covers the grave of Rob Roy, with those found upon several of the ancient sculptured stones of Scotland, of which a large collection has recently been published by the Spalding Club, under the editorial care of their respected secretary, John Stuart, Esq., advocate, there is reason not only to suppose, but to believe, that ages before the name of MacGregor was known in the braes of Balquhidder, this monumental slab denoted the grave of some person locally distinguished, but whose name, with any other memorial or particulars have long since been shrouded in oblivion.

The rudely incised figures upon this stone, which is about six feet long by sixteen inches wide, may be conjectured to indicate the predilections or pursuits of the person it was purposed in the olden time to commemorate. The cross-patent near the breast of the grotesquely represented human figure, or possibly cross-patée, for it is difficult to define which of the kinds it purports; or whether it is intended to represent either, being after all, probably, an emblem of Christianity, may be looked

upon as indicative of the faith of the deceased; the dogs, emblematical of his ardour or attachment to the sports of the chace; and the sword, rudely carved and ill proportioned to the rest of the figures, may emblematise his individual prowess.

The last described stone, like that having simply the sword, are both partially mutilated, owing to the penchant which many unreflective tourists have to carry off some fragment of known relics of the past. The practice is highly reprehensible, and cannot be too much condemned.

Besides these interesting monuments of the MacGregors, there is in the burial ground an oddly shaped stone, resembling in form and size a horse's collar. Traditionally it is said to have been an instrument of punishment in the days of superstitious requirements, and that it was formerly placed on the shoulders of the delinquent, whose head protruded through it. The aperture is sufficiently large enough for that purpose, but as the writer has never before seen or heard of a similar object, it is here figured, in the hope that some correspondent of Current Notes may advance some particulars respecting its use.

Brechin. A. J.

BRITISH CHURCH NOT SUBJECT TO ROME.

The following memorials have been collected, to form an appendix to Bishop Godwyn's Catalogue of the Prelates of England and Wales, which latter country stops short at p. 430, with those of Llandaff; the reverend author being precluded by death from adding those of Bangor or St. Asaph, as he had purposed.

Bangor, a city of Caernarvonshire, in North Wales, is situated in a valley, within a short distance of the charming and much-frequented bay of Beaumaris. It is enclosed on the south side with a very steep mountain, and, comparatively speaking, by a little hill on the north. Camden derives its name *à choro pulchro*, from a beautiful quire; or, as others suppose, *quasi locus chori*, the place of a quire.

The cathedral is in the form of a cross: the eastern part is embattled, and at the west end is a low massive square tower, surmounted by four pinnacles. This tower and the nave, some parts of the transepts, and most of the windows of the choir are perpendicular. The south aisle of the nave is decorated, and there are some buttresses and other portions of early English character. The north aisle to the choir is divided, and used as a chapter house and vestry. The font, of an octagonal and perpendicular character, is very handsome.

Bishop Godwyn has given an interesting account of the foundation of episcopacy, wherein he states that one of the earliest kings was baptized, and following his example, many of his people in all parts of his dominions; and that he caused the temples of his false gods to be dedicated to the service of the True God.

In place of their priests, he appointed preachers of the Gospel, and for their flamines, he created bishops to the number of twenty-eight; and of these, three were instituted archbishops—one at London, whose province was the southern part of England; a second, at Caerlegion upon Uske, his province was Wales; and the third at York, unto whose jurisdiction the bishops of Scotland and North England were subject.

The Gospel under such influence prospered greatly, and even when a terrible persecution of the Church, by the Saxons, prevailed in almost every other part of the land, it found in Wales many open and undaunted professors, who never allowed the light thereof to be utterly extinguished. There was, in fact, no public authorisation of the Christian religion anywhere but in Wales.

That a monastery was founded at a very early period in Bangor is evident, from the recorded notice of the spirited reply of the monks thereof to Augustine, on his coming to England, long after the supposed establishment of that monastery; when, on his landing in Kent, King Ethelbert bestowed on him the royal city of Canterbury, as an episcopal see, and the King's palace for a cathedral church, to be erected unto Christ. Pope Gregory the Great having, in 601, honoured Augustine with the pall, and thereby appointed him Metropolitan of Britain, he summoned a council in the borders of Worcestershire, that he might be somewhat nigher to the British clergy and bishops, in Wales, and warned them to appear. Augustine in that assembly demanded from them obedience to the Bishop of Rome, and the reception of the Roman ceremonies into the service of the British Church.

This innovation the Britons rejected, and after a long disputation on both sides, another session or synod was agreed on, at which a greater number of the British clergy were present, and amongst them seven bishops.

The monastery of Bangor contained at this time, it is said, so great a number of monks, that when the whole monastery was constituted into seven parts with their rulers, no part contained fewer than three hundred men, all of whom obtained their maintenance by the labour of their hands.

To the demand made by Augustine of submission to the dominance of the Bishop of Rome, the abbot, in the name of his Church, made this memorable reply:—

Be it known and without doubt unto you, that We, all and every one of us are obedient and subject to the Church of God, and to the Pope of Rome, and to every godly Christian, to love every one in his degree in perfect charity, and to help every one of them, by word and deed, to be the children of God: other obedience than this I do not know due to him, whom you name to be Pope; nor to be Father of Fathers; to be claimed and to be demanded; and this obedience we are ready to give, and to render to him, and to every Christian continually. Besides, We are under the government of the Bishop of Caerleon upon Uske, who is to oversee under

God, and rule over us, to cause us to keep the way spiritually.

This abbot was no other, as appears by a Norman manuscript yet extant, than the renowned Dinoth; and it is clear, not only from this reply to Augustine, but also, from what is related by the Venerable Bede, that the British Church acknowledged no supremacy in the Roman bishop, or any other foreign patriarch. Neither had it any communication with the Roman Church, but was subject, as from the days of Eleutherius, to a metropolitan of its own.

The consequence of this resistance to the mandate of Augustine was a most horrible slaughter of the monks of this celebrated monastery, the particulars of which are related in Sammes' Britannia, p. 513.

Historians affirm that the first establishment of the Christian faith in this country was first promulgated here about 181 years after the birth of Christ, and the reason stated for its earlier establishment in Britain than in other nations, arose from the devotion, piety, and learning of the Druidical order, who were eminent throughout the island, who decided and judged not only in spiritual, but in civil affairs, and were resorted to as oracles for their profound judgment and skill in questions of the highest concern. Many of their tenets—that of the immortality of the soul, especially, constituted points of ready admission to that faith, which, besides the great sanctity and holiness it implied, it taught rewards of virtue and punishments of vice upon surer grounds than the heathens had ever inculcated—that there was an Almighty Power which strictly examined the actions of all mankind.

Kent, Oct. 13. ECLECTICUS.

THE PRIOR'S CROSS, 'BY HOOK AND CROOK.'

Hals in his Parochial History of Cornwall, in reference to the Peverells of Park, in his account of the parish of Egloshoyle, observes—

Those Peverells are especially memorable here by two crosses of moorstone in the highway set up by them, still extant (circa 1700), and called Peverell's crosses.

Not far from them is another moorstone cross, near Mount Charles, called the Prior's Cross, whereon is cut the figure of a hook and crook, in memory of that privilege and freedom granted by him to the poor of Bodmin, for gathering for fireboote and houseboote, such boughs and branches of oak trees in his contiguous wood of Dunmear as they could reach to, or come at with a hook and crook without further damage to the trees thereof. From whence arose the Cornish proverb concerning filching, purloining, or taking another person's goods overmuch, or indirectly, beyond what is allowed them—'they will have it by hook or by crook.'

Some short time since, while purposely searching for these monuments, I discovered not far from Mount Charles, its original situation, what I believe to be the Prior's Cross, built into a hedge, near the little inn at Washaway. As it is supposed to be unique, an account of it may well be inserted in Current Notes, especially as Mr. Blight, whose recent highly and truthfully illustrated work on the crosses of West Cornwall is soon to be followed by a similar volume on those of the Eastern portion of the county, has kindly offered to illustrate it by a characteristic sketch.

The stone, the dimensions of which are uncertain from its being partially sunk in the ground, is of the common round-headed form, but in place of the cross which usually occupies the disk, the exposed side shews a *fleur-de-lis sans pied* carved in relief. That Hals's explanation of the figure, probably derived from the tradition of the neighbourhood, is incorrect, seems more than likely from the very distant resemblance which the lateral leaflets of the device bear to the woodcutter's implements mentioned, as also from the improbability that the reverent spirit of the age would have permitted such an use of a form of pillar consecrated to a loftier purpose. There would appear to be more truth in the suggestion that the *fleur-de-lis* is commemorative of the Virgin. Can your readers furnish further instances of the sacred use of the symbol?

The derivation of the common proverb which the historian gives is, at least, as good as any that antiquarians have offered, which is, however, saying but little for its value. Your legal readers could, I dare say, supply examples to prove that it is a phrase frequent in deeds conveying grants of common of estovers. Several instances of its use are to be found in connection with the grant that this stone was popularly supposed to refer to, and the production of them here will be of wider interest in illustrating the social insecurity of a not very distant age. My information is derived from the Rev. John Wallis's useful and interesting Bodmin Register.

A right of housebote and fireboote, as well as common of pasturage in the Dunmeer wood, was granted to the poor of Bodmin by one of the earlier priors, and this

right, so liable to abuse, was, at a later date, a source of quarrel between the prior and the people of the town. A testimonial of the town against the prior, bearing date 1525, states, "that the wood, called Dynmure wood, was ever open and common for all burgesses and inhabitants of Bodmyn till now of late, as well for all manner kind of their beasts to common therein, as to have their burden wood, to bear and carry away upon their backs, of lop, crop, hook, crook, and bagwood, without contradiction, let or disturbance of any manner persons; always reserving and saving to the Prior of Bodmyn and his successors the stems of the trees for their fuel and building," and it goes on to complain that the bailiffs whose duty it was to see that matters should be "indifferently ordered according to good right and conscience," were accustomed, for rewards and money given, to permit certain burgesses and others to carry away on horses the burthen wood to the prejudice of both the Prior and the commonalty. The dispute from hard words came to blows, as is detailed in a petition from the town to Henry VIII., within the period 1529-39, and that document represented that "whereas the said inhabitants have used to have common pasture, with all manner of beasts, and common fuel, in a wood called Dynmure wood, a mile from the said town, that is to say, with hook and crook, to lop and crop and to carry away upon their backs and none other ways," the Prior had caused the said wood to be inclosed, the gates to be locked, and by his bailiffs had beaten, and cruelly obstructed the poor people while attempting to exercise their right of common; and that "the same now Prior hath now of late sold the said wood and made coal there, pretending it to be his several wood, not having regard to the title of common that the said inhabitants have within the said wood." The townspeople may possibly have exceeded their privileges, but they stoutly resented this infringement of their rights, and pulled down a hedge that "they might *daysler* use the said ways and common." The Prior, among whose virtues forbearance could not be numbered, assumed an attitude of vengeance, and commanded the friends and servants of the manor of Bodmin to repair to the priory with such weapons as they had. "By this means he gathered unto the said priory by estimation to the number of a hundred persons and above, and charged five cart load of ordnance with pellets to shoot into the town, and to destroy the town, and so shot into the town twenty pellets or thereabouts, which unlawful purpose the same Prior had maliciously fulfilled to his power, if by the council and advice of good men he had not been stayed; by reason of which dealings and malicious purpose," saith the petition, "the said poor commons standeth greatly in dread of the said Prior, and were thereby greatly inquieted."

This right of common was soon after renounced in consideration of a grant of a leet and frank pledge, for ninety-nine years, at the annual rent of four pounds (the term, at its close, to be renewed for ninety-nine years more), with a licence to build a market house in the town, and to hold a fair or mart at the Berry.

Bodmin. THOMAS Q. COUCH.

EARLY MERCHANTS' MARKS.

Appended to a grant from Rowland Hawarde, William Allen and Lyonel Duckett, Knights, Aldermen of London; to Edward Osborne,* Woolston Dixie, George Barne, Thomas Starkey, Richard Martin, and William Rowe, of four acres of land in 'Fynsburie field juxta Bonhill,' dated March 22, 1583; are the seals and signatures of the grantees. On the seal of Sir Rowland Haywarde are the following armorial bearings—1 and 6. A lion rampant guardant crowned. 2. Two pellets engrailed. 3. On a saltire engrailed, five fleurs-de-lis. 4. A lion rampant guardant in chief, two mullets. 5. Per fess indented, an eagle displayed.

The seal of Sir William Allyn, as the name is so subscribed, Lord Mayor of London, 1571, has his merchant's mark, as here shewn:

In Heylin's Help to English History, edit. 1773, p. 528, the following arms are assigned to Allen —

Party per pale sable and or, on a fess engrailed, counterchanged, three Talbots passant, gules and of the second.

On Sir Lyonel Duckett's seal are the arms, quarterly —1. A saltire charged with a mullet. 2. Three cushions tasselled. 3. A lion rampant. In Heylin's Help to English History, edit. 1773, p. 528, it is said the lion rampant, is within a bordure engrailed, but it is not so on the seal. 4. A saltire between twelve crosses crosslet.

Sir Wolstan Dixie was Lord Mayor in 1585, when the Inauguration Pageant was written by George Peele. Of this there is but one printed copy known, it is among the many bibliographical rarities deposited in the Corporation Library, Guildhall. A friend to his country and to mankind, Sir Wolstan Dixie deserves to be held in perpetual remembrance for his exemplary character as a magistrate, and for his extensive charities.

Sir George Barne, Lord Mayor in 1586, was the first Merchant Adventurer to Barbary, Russia and Genoa.

The deed is among the records of the Corporation of London.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

* Sir Edward Osborne, the ancestor from whom are descended the ducal family of Leeds. He was apprenticed to Sir William Hewet, of the Clothworker's Company, Lord Mayor in 1559, one of the most considerable merchants in London, and possessed of an estate of six thousand pounds per annum. Sir William's residence was on London bridge, and his only child Anne having, by the negligence of her nurse, fallen into the Thames from the window of the house upon the bridge, his apprentice Osborne on the instant leaped into the river, and having rescued her with much difficulty and danger, was in after time rewarded with her hand and fortune. As that was ample, he appears to have early relinquished mercantile affairs, although he served Lord Mayor in 1582, the year previous to this grant, and was elected the representative in Parliament for the City of London in 1585.

NUNBURNHOLME.—In the autumn of 1855, a parcel of Roman third brass coins was found at Nunburnholme, near Pocklington; they are now in the possession of Lord Londesborough, the lord of the manor, and as the result of their examination may afford some data for the comparative rarity of certain Emperors, the numbers of each are here given. The number rendered was 3236. A few of Tacitus and Probus were also stated to have been among them, but are not here particularised:—

Valerianus, A.D. 254	3
Gallienus, A.D. 253-268	318
Salonina	24
Victorinus, A.D. 265-267	412
Marius, A.D. 267	4
Tetricus, senior, A.D. 267-272	1270
Tetricus, the younger	448
Barbarous imitations, chiefly of the Tetrici period	415
Claudius Gothicus, A.D. 268-270	326
Quintillus, A.D. 270	13
Aurelianus, A.D. 270-275	3

DUCHESS DALTON.—Lately perusing some old family papers, a century or later, I find a notice of the Duchess Dalton, or D'Alton, who is stated to have died 'very old.' My curiosity was excited, but after referring to most of the family histories, have failed wholly in discovering any clue as to whom she was? Can any of the many deeply-read contributors to Current Notes kindly afford me a helping hand?

Cheshunt, Oct. 10. N. V.

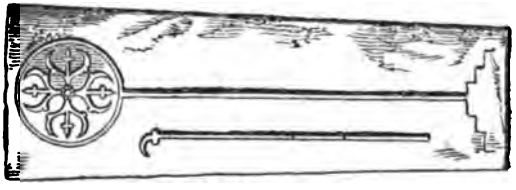
Alice Wise, who died at York, Feb. 20, 1751, aged 108, was commonly known by the appellation of 'Duchess Dalton,' but why does not appear. Her desire was to have as many persons invited to her funeral as she was years old, and that number accordingly formed the cortege of her corpse to the grave.—Ed.

DR. HALL.—The Duke of Rutland and other distinguished persons, desirous of presenting to Dr. Spencer T. Hall, author of 'The Peak and the Plain,' and other works, some appropriate memorial of the esteem and friendship with which they estimate his public usefulness, are liberally aiding a subscription in Derby towards the purchase of a complete set of Models, Diagrams and Apparatus for illustrating, educationally, Lectures on Physiology and the Laws of Health. Robert Pegg, Esq., Mayor of Derby, is the treasurer; and Mr. Llewellyn Jewitt, F.S.A., proprietor of the Derby Telegraph, officiates as honorary secretary. Many distinguished names appear in the list of the committee, and we unequivocally commend their exertions to the consideration of kindly disposed individuals.

BANGOR EPISCOPAL MONUMENTS.

The Rev. Charles Boutell, in his Christian Monuments in England and Wales, p. 69, figures the monumental slab of Griffith ap Jorworth, a benefactor to Bangor Friery, now built into the wall of the grammar school, at that city, which, as he observes, is a memorial no less beautiful than interesting. It bears a cross of most elegant design, which has on the dexter side of its stem, a sword,* and on the sinister side, a Latin legend in two lines + HIC : IACET GRVFVD : IORWERTH : VAP :, cut in relief in sunk labels. Below the woodcut it is described as the coffin slab of Griffith ap Jorworth, Bangor, c. A D. 1320: but Griffith or Griffin ap Yerward was consecrated bishop of Bangor, March 26, 1307, and died in 1309. His successor, Anian Seys, was consecrated Nov. 9, 1309, and died Jan. 26, 1327. Heylin and Beatson place Lewis I., as the successor of bishop Griffith in 1320, which date the Rev. C. Boutell appears to have adopted; but Le Neve omits this Lewis; whilst on the other hand, Heylin and Beatson are silent as to Bishop Seys.

In 1787 was discovered at Bangor another coffin lid, apparently unknown to Rev C. Boutell, bearing a cross flory, and on the dexter side a bishop's crook or staff, with between the stem of the cross and the crook the inscription—HIC ⁝ IACET ⁝ IhGER ⁝ IOH'S DE ⁝ LAHNAJES +, or more fully, Hic jacet Magister Johannes de Lahnajestyn.



Lhanjestyn is a rectory in Caernarvonshire, in the diocese of Bangor, with a population of about fifteen hundred persons. Our correspondent, ECLECTICUS, seems inclined to suppose this inscription to refer either to Johannes Gilbert, who was appointed bishop of Bangor, Nov. 16, 1372, or to Johannes Clovensis; about both of whom there seems some doubt John Gilbert was translated to Hereford, Sept. 12, 1375, moved to St. David's, May 6, 1389,† and died Lord Treasurer, July 28, 1397.

Heylin and Beatson designate Jo. Clovensis suffragan to the Archbishop of Cashell, the successor of Bishop Gilbert, and states that Bishop Swaffham followed him in 1383. Le Neve, however, registers Gilbert's successor at Bangor, John Swaffham, bishop of Clogher, in Ireland, from whence he was translated to this see, Oct. 28, 1376.

Can any correspondent supply any facts respecting this John of Llanjestyn? who it would seem was a prelate of some distinction.

* The sword would seem to militate against the fact of its being the bishop's memorial; another point of difficulty is the assertion by Malkin, in his South Wales, 1804, 4to. p. 462—On the south side of St. David's cathedral, near the throne, lies bishop Jorwerth in his robes, with his mitre and staff.

† In Duncombe's Hereford, the date is July 12, 1389.

AMCOTTS GRANT, TEMP. EDWARD THE SIXTH.

The following grant of arms to Alexander Amcotts of Astrop, in Lincolnshire, in 1549; the original being in my possession, is worthy of note, as it specifies not only the achievements of the family, but also their quarterings, a circumstance rarely observed in grants of so early a date. The parchment, on three sides has an illuminated border, and the initial letter T richly gilded, has within it, the emblazoned portrait of Garter, habited in the tabard and crown of his office; standing upon a green mound, and his arms extended.

The grant, it will be observed, is dated in October, 1549; but Sir Christopher Barker died in January in that year, and Sir Gilbert Dethick was appointed Garter in April, 1549. The arms appear to have been granted by Barker, but the document was not drawn or issued as authority until after his decease.

Packwood, Warwickshire. J. FETHERSTON.

To all and singular parsons these present letters hyrenge or seeinge, Syr CHRISTOFER BARKER, Knight, als Garter Principall Kinge of armes of Englesshemen, Sendethe due and and humble recummendacion and greatinge. Equitee willethe and reason ordeinethe that men vertuous and of noble courage be by theire merytes and good renowne rewarded and had in perpetuall memory for theire good name, and be in all places of honnor and wourshipp among other noble parsons accepted and reputed, by shewinge of certein ensignes and tokens of vtue, honner, and gentelness, to thentente that by theire Insample others shulde the more perseuerantly enforce themselfes to use theire tyme in honorable wourkes and vertuous dedes to purchase and gette the renowne of aucient noblesse, not oonly for themselfes, but allso for the heyrs and posteritee of them discended, accordinge to theire demerytes and valyant actes, to be taken forthe and reputed amonges all, nobles and gentels, and all be yt that ALEXANDER AMCOTTES, of Astroppe, in the Countie of Lyncolne, ys descended of honneste lignaige, and allso, his auncestors and predecessours hathe longe contynued in nobilitee and beringe armes laufull and conuenient, yett nevertheless he beinge incertein thereof hathe heretofore erred frome the same, the whiche I the said Garter perceyuenge after aduertisment and due proofe of the same to hym made, he knowlegeng his saide error in the premisses, hathe requyred and Instantly desyred me the saide Garter to ratefy and conferme unto hym, and allso to regester in my recordes, the true armes and blason of his saide auncestors, and therefore I the foresaide Garter, by vertue, power, and auctoritee to myne office of principall Kinge of armes annexed and attributed by the Kinge our Souerain Lorde, I haue appointed and cōfermed unto ye saide ALEXANDER AMCOTTES, these armes and creste with thappurtenaunces hereafter followenge, viz.:

Berethe Syluer, a castell betwene iii cuppes asure. In the secunde quarter, syluer, iiii barres goullys ouer all a lyon Rampant Sabulles crowned armed and langed golde. In ye thyrde quarter gouls, a castell golde, the fylde droppt syluer. In the iiii quarter gouls, a bende syluer, betwene iiii Cotteses golde; upon the bende iii Skallope shells sables. In ye v quarter syluer, a bende betwene ii Cotteses sables, upon the bende iii greffeth hedys raced syluer, bekett golde. In the vi quarter, syluer, iii Rose Garlondes gouls, betwene ii Cotteses sables. Upon his Crest, a skurrell cuchant gouls, crakinge of a notte golde; set upon a wrethe golde and asure; mantell sables, lyned syluer buttened golde as more plainely apperethe depicted in this margent.

To haue and to holde unto ye saide ALEXANDER AMCOTTES, and to his posteritee, with theire due difference therein to be reuested to his honner for eumore.

In wittnes whereof I ye saide Garter Pncipall Kinge of armes, as abouesaid, haue signed these psent with myn owne hāde and thereunto have sett ye seale of myn office and also ye seale of myn armes. Geven at Londō ye V day of October, in the yere of our Lorde God MDXLIX, and of the Reigne of our Souuerain Lorde. Kinge Edwarde ye VIte, by ye grace of God Kinge of Englande Fraunce and Irelonde defendor of ye faythe, and in earthe of the Churche of Englande and Irelande Supreme head. In the therde yere of his graces Reigne. C. B. als Gartier.

WARD FAMILY, IPSWICH.

In some manuscript collections relating to Suffolk, during the Commonwealth period, are the following memoranda. The descendants of the Wards are now located in America, and are very wealthy.

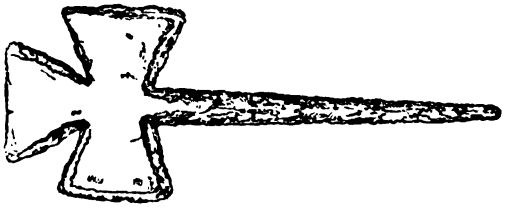
St. Clements, Ipswich.—The present rector is Mr. JOHN WARD, brother of Mr. SAMUEL WARD, sometime there Tower preacher. He married Lydia, sister of John Acton, Esq., of Bramford, and widow of Daniel Burrell, Gent. His estate as minister of St. Clements, by his wife, his owne lands and otherwise, viis et modis, is thought worth 400*l.* per annum.

A later edition states—There is since a handsome monument of alabaster against the wall, set up by Thomas Essington, Esq., and Anne, his wife, to preserve the memory of John Ward, minister there.

Mæ Sm
Conditur in isto Sacrario quod exuerat mortale
JOHANNIS WARD,
ipso cognomine laudatus quod et præstitit
inter fratres symmystas (τοῦς παλαι μαχαριτας)
nisi natu, haud cætera postremus. Qui cum pastorali
munere hoc loci supra vicennium, Simul
functus est fato, April 18°· an°· 1661. æt. 67
Καὶ δι' αὐτῆς ἀποθανὼν ἔτι λαλεῖται. Heb. 11.
juxti et positi
Cineres piissimæ (quam præmiserat bienni
fere spatio) conjugis Lydiæ feminæ ut
familia amplissima, ita se magis spectatæ.
Ex cruce Flores.
Arms: Niger, a Maltese cross or.

THE CROSS OR SWORD AT AUCHENDRANE.

Traditionally, the cross or sword, cut upon a large grey granite boulder stone here, measuring from head to point forty-one inches, and transversely fifteen inches, is said to represent the sword of Sir William Wallace, the shape of which here shewn,



was cut into the stone by his followers to commemorate one of his successful raids between the years 1291 and 1297, against the soldiers of Edward the First of England, who were then in garrison in the neighbouring town of Ayr.

On the other hand, the author of the Description of Carrick, one of the districts of Ayrshire, who lived towards the close of the seventeenth century, and whose treatise is appended to Pitcairn's reprint of the History of the Kennedies, Edinb. 1830, states—'Upon the descent of Brown Carrick Hill, near to the mains of Blairstowne, is a big whinstone, upon which is the dull figure of a crosse, alledged to have been done by some venerable churchman, who did mediate a peace between the Kings of the Picts and the Scots, and to give the more authority to his proposals, did in their sight, by laying a crosse upon the stone, imprint that figure thereon.'

Which, therefore, of these stories is the most credible and the most deserving of belief? Hereabouts we prefer the first.

Is it a cross or a sword that is represented on the large granite boulder stone? and in either case, does it commemorate Wallace, or the peace between the Picts and the Scots? Possibly some of your numerous readers may be able to solve and settle this difficulty. The stone is now enclosed within a wall, in order to its preservation.

Auchendrane, Ayr, Oct. 9. E. C.

PRESIDENTIAL HAMMER.—Whence is derived the practice of the chairman at public meetings calling to order by the rapping of a hammer?

Edinburgh, Oct. 11. E. G.

In May last, at a meeting of the British Archæological Association, Captain Tupper exhibited the head of a hammer, carved in ivory, having the arms of the Merchant Taylors' Company, London, on one end; and the other inscribed—The guift of Thomas Roberts, 1679. A portion of the handle of black wood remained in the socket. The origin of the Presidential Hammer, as a symbol of authority, is supposed, as it was then stated, to be sought for in the Mjölner of the mighty Thor.

LINES TO A FAIR STOIC.

The couplet quoted in Current Notes, p. 78, appears to admit of a closer translation than either there quoted, *e. g.*

Si, nisi quæ forma poterit te digna videri
Nulla futura tua est; nulla futura tua est.

Which I would render —

If, save the form in beauty worthy thee,
None shall be thine; thine none shall ever be.

Oct. 6. W. S.

On reading the couplet, and the translations, in Current Notes, p. 78, it appeared to me that none of them were sufficiently close to the original. To the following attempt you are welcome:

If none, but one, whose form seems worthy thee,
Shall be thine own; none thine will ever be.

Oct. 8. T. P. M. H.

REMARKABLE EPITAPHS IN LESLIE, FIFESHIRE.

To the memory of GEORGE ARCHER, aged 63, and his wife, AGNES WALKER, aged 69. Both died in the month of May, 1711.

Here lyes within this earthen ark,
An Archer grave and wise;
Faith was his arrow, Christ the mark,
And glory was the prise.
His bow is now a harp, his song
Doth halleluiahs dite;
His consort Walker went along
To walk with Christ in white.

Upon a marble tablet is the following —

John Brown's dust lays here below,
Once served a noble earl,*
To his commands he ne'er said no,
Had it been on his peril.

His days and years they were spun out
Like to a thread most fine;
At last a period came about
Snapt it at ninety-nine.

It being the 24th day of May,
In the year forty-six,†
This honest man was called away,
To heaven we hope did fix.

On the same tablet, later was added —

Here lyes the dust of Charles Brown,
Sometime a wright in London town;
Who coming home parents to see,
And of his years being twenty-three;
Of a decay with a bad hort.‡
He dyed upon the Yorkshire cost;
The 10th of May, 1752.
We hope his soul in heaven rests now.

---

* Earl of Rothes. † 1746.
‡ Decay, a pulmonary consumption. Hort, a cough.

PICTORIAL NIMBUS OR GLORY.

Can any of your antiquarian readers give any illustrations of the Nimbus of painters, especially in reference to this sacred ornament of the heads of the Saviour and the Virgin Mary in particular; I mean as to its distinctive character, and as expressive of a particular age, or artist? One form, which is perhaps rather more rare than the circlet of light, though it is sometimes used with it, is, I believe, that of the small pointed flame resting upon the crown of the head. I wish to ascertain if this is indicative of a particular school, and of what school of art, as well as to have a reference or two to any remarkable pictures where examples of it are met with?

Oct. 1. E. B.

Millington's translation of Didron's Christian Iconography, 1851; and Mrs. Jameson's Legends of the Madonna, 1852, will furnish our correspondent with all he requires.

BIBLICAL MISTRANSLATION CORRECTED.

Joshua said in the sight of Israel—Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon. Ch. x., v. 12. In the Hebrew, the Rev. Stephen Weston observes, the reading is—Sun be thou silent on Gibeon, etc. Dum sile, Σιωπα. Aquila, Παυσον, cease to shine, in the Heavenly bodies, is non-appearance or absence. Lunæ silentis dies est interlunium. Plin, lib. xvi., c. 74. Virgil's Per amica silentia lunæ, is in the dark; and when the Greeks sailed unobserved to Troy, 'silentem lunum,' minimè tum lucentem. Politian. in locum. See also Deborah's song, where the stars fought against Sisera, by not lending their light, and his army, in the dark, was driven into the brook Kishon. Dante, Inferno, cap. 1., says—

Mi ripingeva là, dove'l sol tace.

These authorities shew that the original word might have been rendered literally, and not to have occasioned for its explanation the appearance of a miracle. Further, it is evident, the prolongation of light was not the object of Joshua's injunction to the Sun, because he adds, the Moon, which whilst the Sun was above the horizon, could have been of no effect. The prayer was made to the Lord, and the command given probably to enable the army of Joshua, to prolong the fight a whole day in a hot country, at the summer solstice, which would otherwise appear to have been impracticable under a meridian sun. Standing, and not hastening to go down, are expressions intelligible enough, of objects whose motion is not perceivable, when obscured by a cloudy atmosphere. J. C.

The Emperor Napoleon, on the occasion of the baptism of the Prince Imperial, has presented the Pope with a superb piece of Gobelins' tapestry, and a baptismal font. The chef-d'œuvre of Caravaggio, in the Vatican, the Descent from the Cross, is the subject of the tapestry; and the font, ornamented with symbols of the Evangelists, is of Sèvres porcelain.

CHRONOGRAM.—Among these whimsies of a bygone day is that by Cleaveland, entitled —

Chronosticon Decollationis Caroli Regis, Tricesimo die Januarii, secunda hora pomeridiana:

Ter Deno IanI Labens ReX soLe CaDente
CaroLVs exVtVs soLIo sCeptroqVe seCVte.

Cambridge, Oct. 13. M.

PORSON.—The following translation of the Latin charade to Miss Laura Crow, in Current Notes, p. 75, is submitted for insertion.

Late, fondly gazing on your charms,
Laura! from me, my first, you stole;
Yet, haply clasp me in your arms:
The loss you caused would soon be whole.
But, than my first, more cold is thine,
As than my second, thine more fair;
While from yon oak, dull croaks divine
To ill starr'd hopes nought but despair.

Answer, Cor-nix. N. H.

The Jews, although scattered over the face of the earth, yet maintain an indissoluble bond of union and common interest. In every country they are as it were the servants, but the time may come when they will virtually be the masters in their turn. Even at the present day, are they not to a great extent the arbiters of the fate of Europe, maintaining on the one hand, the bond between the different States, by the mysterious power of wealth which they possess; and on the other, loosening the ties of social life, and introducing or fostering ideas of change and revolution among various peoples? In the Jewish nation stirs the Nemesis of the destiny of Europe. VON HAXTHAUSEN.

Holford House, situated near the north gate, in the Great Park of the Regent's Park, upon which the late proprietor expended, it is said, not less than fifty thousand pounds, the sewer thence to Hanover Gate cost five thousand, after being for the last two years a subject of much speculation, has been purchased by the Baptist Communion. The purpose being to move to this new and advantageous position the establishment of the Baptist College, now at Stepney; and in which, in addition to the training persons for the ministry, arrangements are to be effected for the reception of a limited number of lay-students. The committee are to have immediate possession. Report states the purchase money was 7000*l.*, but in the Times of the 14th inst., it is said—To complete the purchase, the sum of 8000*l.* is required, towards which, however, 5000*l.* has been already raised, Sir S. M. Peto having headed the list with the munificent donation of 1000*l.* Possibly this involves the money required for alterations to adapt the building for collegiate purposes. The land, probably about nine acres, within a ring fence, without the garden-wall of Holford House, is rented from the Crown, at nine pounds per acre per annum.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXI.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [NOVEMBER, 1856.

ON A NYMPH SLEEPING BY A FOUNTAIN.

The subjoined Latin Epigram, more elegant even than Professor Porson's, is to be found in the Anthologia Latina, vol. I. page 62. I send you two versions; the English is the well known one of Pope, which some of your readers may not be sorry to have again brought to their remembrance; the other is a Greek translation of my own; I trouble you with it only in the hope that it may elicit one from an abler pen.

Hujus Nympha loci, sacri custodia fontis,
Dormio, dum blandæ sentio murmur aquæ;
Parce meum, quisquis tangis cava murmura, somnum
Rumpere; sive bibas, sive lavere, tace.

Nymph of the Grot! these sacred springs I keep,
And to the murmur of these waters sleep;
Oh! spare my slumbers! gently tread the cave,
Or drink in silence, or in silence lave!

Κρουνῶν Ἔρεειος Νυμφὰ γλυκειρώτατον ὕπνον
Ἔυδω- τοις ψιθυροις ὕδασι θιλγόμενα·
Ὅιτινες ἰισερχίσθε, θίρει, ἰμα κῦιλα μιλάθρα,
Σίγατ'·ἴιτε πίητ', ἴιτε λοῆσθε, φίλοι.

Newport, Essex. WILLIAM HILDYARD.

PICTORIAL NIMBUS OR GLORY.

Your correspondent E. B., has been referred to the best authorities on the subject of the Nimbus, yet it may be of service to inform him, that in a page illumination representing the festival of the Pentecost, in a beautifully executed Dutch missal, in my possession, which I suppose, from the character of the illuminations, to be of the early part of the Fifteenth Century; there are shewn the Twelve Apostles, six being on either side of the Virgin, who is seated on a sort of dais; with a circular Nimbus round their heads, and in addition, the red pointed flame mentioned by your correspondent, almost touching the heads. The absence of it over the head of the Virgin is compensated by the substitution of what appears to have been a White Dove, but in consequence of the colour having been laid on the burnished gold, it has suffered greatly by friction, and this supposition of mine may be liable to some little doubt. Ruskin, if I remember rightly, in his Lectures delivered at Edinburgh, stated that the Dutch Missals are much inferior in point of execution to the English and French, but the one to which I have referred, is certainly an exception to this rule.

North Shields. F. R. N. H.

THE TERM 'HARDEN JEWS' EXPLAINED.

In ages long since gone by, the application of 'Harden Jews,' was the cognomen given to the inhabitants of a small town in Flintshire, about five miles from Chester; called Hawarden, but commonly pronounced Harden. The term, singular as it may seem, is thus accounted for by a recent traveller in Wales, who met with the elucidation in some legendary traditions which he gathered in his progress.

During the reign of Cynan ap Elis ap Anarawd, king of Gwynedd North, at Hardin, was a Christian temple, and in it a rood-loft, in which was placed an image of the Virgin Mary, bearing in its hands a large cross, called 'the Holy Rood.' To this object of their adoration, the inhabitants, during the hot and dry summer of the year 946, addressed their supplications, and ardently implored rain, but unhappily without effect. Among others was the Lady Trowst, wife of Sitsilt, then governor of Harden Castle; but it so happened that while in prayer, the Holy Rood, from some unknown cause, fell upon her, and killed her. Incensed beyond control, a great tumult ensued, and it was at length determined not only to try the said Virgin for the murder of the Lady, but also for the inattention or neglect in not responding to the entreaties for rain from the numerous petitioners. The dumb 'made of hands' representative of 'Her Majesty of Heaven,' unable to reply to the charges exhibited against her, was deemed guilty, and the sentence was hanging, but one Span of Mancot, who was one of the judges, opposed this act, by saying it was best to drown the image, since it was rain for which they had prayed. This amelioration of the sentence was fiercely opposed by another of the triers named Corbin of the Gate, who advised that she should be laid on the sands, near the river. This proposition received the general assent, and on the tide receding, the water bore off placidly on its bosom the image of 'Our Lady,' to a place near the wall of the City of Chester, where on the following day it was found 'drowned and dead;' and in consequence, those by whom she was discovered burned her, and raised a monument, thus inscribed:

The Jews their God did crucify,
The Hard'ners theirs did drown;
Because their wants she'd not supply,
And placed her under this cold stone.

This incident, it is said, caused the name of the river that had been hitherto called the Usk, to be changed to Rood-Die, or Rood-Dee.

Angleterre. HOMO.

EARLY MERCHANT'S MARK.

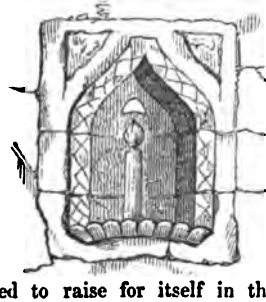
On the side of the Font in St. Michael's church, Coventry, is a small brass plate, on which the mark here shewn in the margin, is engraved, but no inscription. The Coventry annals state the Font in St. Michael's church was placed there in 1394, by John Crosse, Mayor for that year, and the mark seems to confirm that statement.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

TAPER OF EXORCISM, LAUNCESTON, CORNWALL.

The church of St. Mary Magdalen, Launceston, was erected early in the sixteenth century by the munificence of Sir Henry Trecarrel, who, conscious of being the last scion of that old Cornish family, desired in this noble manner to perpetuate his name and his piety. The architecture of the church, as may be supposed, is not remarkable for its purity of taste; the faults of the style are, however, amply redeemed by the unique mode of carving that adorns the whole exterior of the building, on which, among other ornaments, amid heraldic pomp, or graceful fancy, figure the arms of the town, and of the Trecarrels; the rich pomegranate, the slender feather of the Prince of Wales, and the blended roses of the House of Tudor.

Over the north door of this church, is observable the relic of Romish belief here depicted. It represents the Taper that was customarily yearly extinguished, at the time that Satan with his influence was supposed to be expelled from the church. In this especial instance, the representation of the Taper of Exorcism carries with it an additional interest of being one of the last monuments Papacy was enabled to raise for itself in the churches of 'Merrie England;' but with the dawn of the Reformation, the light that shone on the Church was unable to bury totally in the shade of deserved oblivion those ceremonies which had long occupied the minds of the people. The character of the English was then, as now, tenacious of old manners and observances; and it was only by degrees that a plainer and purer belief could be instilled into them.



The ceremonies of the Church of Rome joined itself with a superstitious fear of the north side of the church, in accordance with which the north door was frequently blocked up; a custom that still lingers in the darker part of of our land. Very lately, a clergyman informed me it was with some difficulty he prevailed on the parishioners of a village in one of the Midland counties, to turn the rusty locks and unloosen the heavy bars of the north door of the church, in order to proceed with a funeral. The fear of the north side of the church-yard as the favourite abode of unquiet ghosts and noisy spirits has possibly died out, but it is possible that some of your readers may have noticed instances of it, even in these days of enlightenment.

I should be glad of further information with regard to the ceremonies and observances enjoined on the occasion, when Satanic scores were cleared off for the year to come. I know of no other example of the sculptured Taper of Exorcism, sculptured over the north door, than that under notice, which is evidently debased in its style. Should however earlier examples be extant, I shall be thankful to know their situations and date.

Nov. 1. T. HARWOOD PATTISON.

COLUMNAR ORNAMENT IN GULVAL CHURCH.

The interior of Gulval church was formerly, as occasion required, lime-whited, but about five or six years since, the vicar, the Rev. W. W. Wingfield, caused the whole to be cleansed of the lime-wash, and on an octagon pillar, were discovered two lables painted; on the first and third of three sides, the words, in Gothic characters, IN GRATIAM CHRISTI; and on the second, between the labels, the following device or figure:—

What is this centre representation? Is it intended for an olive branch? This discovery has occasioned much discussion here. A beacon it is not; nor are there any notches for footholds to the summit. It is unquestionably intended to pourtray a plant, though of what description is doubtful. Nothing of the kind grows in the neighbourhood, to my knowledge. All sorts of people have endeavoured to comprehend its meaning, but without success, probably some of your readers may explain this difficulty?

Penzance. HENRY WILLIAMS.

ARMS OF THE BARBER SURGEONS' COMPANY.

The original grant of arms to the Company of Barber Surgeons, by Garter, Clarencieux and Norroy, in 1569, is on parchment, having on three sides, a floriated border, with, at the top, the arms of Queen Elizabeth, between a Tudor rose, and a fleur-de-lis, or, each within a wreath, vert.

On the margin, on the left side of the grant, are emblazoned the arms, crest, supporters, and motto—DE PRÆSCIENTIA DEI—of the Company of Barber Surgeons; and on the right side, a portcullis, or, encircled within a wreath, vert.

The initial T, at the commencement, is of large size and illuminated; within it is the representation of Dethick, or Garter King of Arms, in his official tabard; and below, the date 1562.

Reference in this grant is made to heraldic insignia here stated to have been assigned by "King Henry th' Eight of famouse memory," to the Company of Surgeons solely, but for which no patent appeared; Garter and his associates seem not to have known that these arms

with supporters had been granted to the Company of Surgeons, in 1492, 7 Henry VII., during the mayoralty of Hugh Clopton. The coat and auxiliaries as then granted are here engraved from an emblazonment in

the Book of Ordinances of the worshipful men of the craft or science of Chirurgie in the Citie of London, dated May 10, 1435, 13 Henry VI.; still in the possession of the Barbers' Company.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. HOWARD.

To all and singuler as well Kinges, Herehaultes, and Officers of Armes, as Nobles, Gentlemen and others to whome these presentes shall come, be seene, heard, read, or understand, Sir GILBERT DETHICKE, Knight, alias Garter principall Kinge of Armes; ROBERT COOKE, Esquire, alias Clarencieulx Kinge of Armes of the south partes of Englande; and WILLIAM FLOWER, Esquire, alias Norroy Kinge of Armes of the northe partes of Englande, send greetinge in our Lorde God euerlastinge.

Forasmuch as aunciently from the beginninge the valiaunt and vertuouse actes of excellent personnes haue ben cōmended to the worlde and posterite with sondrey monumentes and remembrances of their goode deseartes, Emongst the which the chiefest and most usuall, hath ben the bearinge of signes and tokens in shildes, called armes, beinge none other thinges then euidences and demonstracions of prowesse and valoir diversly distributed accordinge to the qualytes and deseartes of the persons meritinge the same. To th'entent that such as have don cōmendable seruice to their prince or countrey, either in warre, or peace, or otherwyse, by laudable and couragiouse entreprices, or proceedinge of eny person, or persons, in th'augmentacion of the estate or cōmon wealth of their realme, or countrey, might therby receyve due honor in their lyues, and also deryue the same successively to their successors and posterite for euer.

And whereas in the Citie of London, th'experience and practise of the science and facultie of Chirurgery is most requisite, and duly to be exercysed, and experimented for the preseruacion of meny, and by th'occasion of the practise thereof meny expert persons be brought up and experimented to the relief, succour, and helpe of an infinite nomber of persons; and for as much as within this Citie of London, there were two severall cōpanyes th'one by the name of Barbours Chirurgeons, and th'other by the name of Chirurgeons onely; the Barbours Chirurgeons being incorporate, and th'other not, and both occupyenge th'arte of Chirurgery, wheruppon greate cōtention did arise; and for that it was most meete and necessary that the sayd two cōpanyes shuld be vnited, and made one hole body, and so incorporated to th'entent, that by their vnion and often assembly togither th'exercyse and knowledge of their science and mistery might appeere as well in practise, as in speculation, not onely to themselfes but to others vnder theim: So that it was thought most meete and cōuenient upon graue and greate cōsideracion to vnyte and joyne the said two cōpanyes in one, which was don as may appeere by an acte of Parleament in ānо [1540] xxxij of Henry th'Eight, in these wordes:

Be it enacted, by the Kinge, our Souereigne Lorde, and the lordes spirituall and temporall, and the cōmons of the same, that the sayde two severall and distinct companies, that is to say bothe the Barbours Chirurgeons, and the Sourgeons, and every parson of theam, beinge a freeman of either of the saide cōpanies after the custome of the sayde Citie of London, and their successours, from henceforthe immediatly be vnyted, and made one entier and whole body corporate, and one societie perpetuall, which at all tymes heerafter shalbe called by the name of Maisters and Gouernours of the mistery and comunalty of Barbours and Surgeons of London, for euermore, and by none other name.

In consideracion wherof, and for that it doth appeere a thinge most requisite for the vnitinge of these two cōpanyes togither, and for that th'occupation of the Barbours Chirurgeons, beinge incorporate hath since the tyme of Kinge Henry the Sixt, used and boren armes, that is to say, Sables, a cheueron between three flewmes, argent, which were unto them assigned onely by the gifte and assignement of Clarencieulx, Kinge of armes, as by the patent thereof doth and may more plainly appeere, and since th'vnitynge of the sayde two cōpanies these armes of the sayd corporation of Barbours Chirurgeons hath ben used, and none other.

Yet, notwithstandinge the late Kinge Henry th'Eight of famouse memory, assigned and gave vnto the Company of the Chirurgeons onely, a cognoysance, which is, a Spatter thereon a rose gules, crowned golde, for their warrant in fielde, but no authorite by warrant, for the bearinge of the same in shilde as armes, and for that it pleased the same Kinge Henry th'eight, not onely to unite and incorporate these two cōpanyes togither by acte of Parleament but also hath ratifyed and cōfirmed the same by his letters patents, under the greate seale of Englande, and so lately cōfirmed by the Queenes Majestie that now is, And whereas, Thomas Galle, in the third yere of the Queenes Majesties reigne that now is, beinge maister; Alexander Mason, John Standon, Robert Mudesley, governors of the same corporation, mistery and cōmunaltie of Barbours and Chirurgeons, beinge desirouse to have some signes and tokens of honor, added and augmented to th'olde and auncient armes of the Barbours Chirurgeons, not onely for a perpetuall memory

as well of the famouse prince Kinge Henry th'Eight, their founder and patrone, but also for a further declaration of th'vnitinge of those two cōpanies togither, did instantly require the late Clarencieulx Heruey to cōsider the premisses, and to shew his endevor therin.

Who findinge their request just and lawfull, did graunt and giue unto theim, by his letters patentes, under the hand and seale bearinge date the 5th of July [1561,] in the third yere of the reigne of the Queene Majestie that now is, an augmentacion in chief to their old and auncient armes with beaulme and creast to the same, which chief was paly argent and vert, on a pale gules, a lyon passant gardant, golde, betweene two spatters, argent, on eche a double rose, gules and argent, crowned golde; and to their creast, on a toroe, silver and sables, an Opinicus, golde, mantelled gules, doubled argent.

And further, in the tyme of Robert Basthrop, Esquire, Sergeaunt of the Queenes Majesties Chirurgeons, then beinge maister of the said mistery and cōmunalty of the Barbours and Chirurgeons; and George Vaughan, Richard Hughes, and George Corron, Governors of the same corporation, the sayd Clarencieulx Heruey, did graunt unto the sayd Corporation, two supporters to those armes, before given theim, which were two Linxe, in their proper coulor, aboute their neckes a crowne with a chayne, argent, pendent thereat as by the sayde letters patentes more plainly doth appeere.

Yet notwithstandinge, for as much as it doth plainly appeere vnto us, the sayd Garter, Clarencieulx and Norroy, Kinges of Armes, that the aforesayd armes in some respectes were not onely contrary to the wordes of the corporation of the sayd Barbours and Chirurgeons, but that also in the same patent of armes there are sondrey other thinges contrary, and not agreinge with the auncient lawes and rules of armes.

We the sayd Kinges of Armes, by power and authorite to us cōmited by letters patent under the greate Seale of Englande, have confirmed, giuen, and graunted, the foresayde armes, creast, and supporters heretofore mentioned to be boren in maner and fourme heer after specified. That is to say—

Quarterly, the first, sables, a cheveron betweene three flewmes, argent. The seconde quarter, per pale, argent and vert, on a spatter of the first, a double rose, gules and argent, crowned golde. The third quarter as the seconde; and the fourth, as the first; over all, on a crosse, gules, a lyon passant gardant, golde; and to their Creast, upon the beaulme on a Toroe, argent and sables, an Opinicus, golde, mantelled gules, doubled argent, supported with two Linxe in their proper coulor about their neckes, a crowne with a chayne, argent, pendent thereat, as more plainly appeerith depicted in this margent.

Which Armes, Creast, and Supporters, and every parte and parcell thereof, We the sayd Kinges of Armes, have confirmed, ratified, giuen, and graunted, and by these presentes, do ratify, confirme, giue, and graunt, unto Richard Tholmowed, maister of the sayd mistery and cōmunaltie; Nicholas Archenbolde, Thomas Burston, and John Fielde, gouvernors of the sayd Corporation, Mistery, and Cōmunaltie of Barbours and Chirurgeons, and to their successors, by the name of Maister and Gouvernours, and to the whole assistantes, company, and fellowshippe of the sayd Corporation, mistery, and cōmunaltie of Barbours and Chirurgeons, within this Citie of London, and to their successors for euermore, and they the same to haue, holde, vse, beare, enjoy, and shewforthe in shylde, seale, banner, or bannerrolles; standard, or standardes; penon, or penons; pencell, or pencelles; or otherwise, to their honors and worshippes at all tymes, and for euer beerafter, at their libertie and pleasure without the impediment, let, molestation, or interruption of eny person, or persones.

In witnesse whereof, We the sayd Garter, Clarencieulx, and Norroy, Kinges of Armes, haue signed these presentes with our handes and affixed therunto, our severall Seales of Armes, the second day of June, in the yere of the nativitie of our Lorde Jesus Christ [1569,] and in the eleventh yere of the reigne of our most dread Souvereyne, Lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God, Queene of Englande, Fraunce, and Irelande, defender of the faithe, etc.

GILBERT DETHICK, alias Garter, principall Kinge of Armes.

ROBERT COOKE, alias Clarencieulx Roy Darmes.

p̄ moy WYLLIAM FLOWER, alias Norroy Roy Darmes.

Entered, approved, and allowed, in the Visitation made 1634.

HEN. ST. GEORGE, Richmond.

THE ANTIQUARY AND THE NOVELIST.

Most of your readers will remember the opening scene of Sir Walter Scott's Antiquary, in which Oldbuck forms the acquaintance of Lovell; and they may possibly recollect the bookseller's boy bearing in his hand a folio volume, the leaves of which the zealous bibliomaniac anxiously turned over to ascertain that it was in every respect perfect. This tome Mr. Jonathan patronizingly informs his new acquaintance is 'Sandy Gordon's Itinerarium Septentrionale,' a book illustrative of the Roman Remains in Scotland.*

On referring to Chambers' Biographical Dictionary of eminent Scotsmen, art., Alexander Gordon, it will be seen how very little is known respecting him: the following letter addressed to Anderson, the Scotish antiquary, and dated August 19, 1723, will therefore doubtless be perused with some interest:—

Sir, Since you did me the favour of lending me Sibbald's book, I have been much instructed and informed by it, I have therefore ranged over all the booksellers' shops in town in search of purchasing it, but to no purpose, save that Paton has promised to procure it for me this week; however, seeing the Baron and I shall probably go out of town to-morrow, I have in a manner an indispensable necessity of having that book of Sibbald's along with me in my antiquary peregrinations; so if I could so far prevail on your goodness to lend it to me, till I come back from the Virtuoso Tour, which can be no further than Glasgow, Stirling and Perth this summer, I should take it as a demonstration of very condescending goodness in you, seeing I cannot get another at present, and this book is absolutely necessary for my designs, seeing it directs me to fifty or sixty places which I know nothing about. Besides, I am to trace the Vallum according to the stages set down in this draught. All this considered and that it may chance to be a public good, I hope you will indulge me with the favour which I came to ask of you in person, but that I heard you were at Fowlbriggs. I am therefore impatiently waiting your commands this way, or, if positively you will have it returned, I shall; but at any rate, I should not keep it

* Waverley Novels, edit. 1829, vol. v. p. 11.

long from you. I beg a thousand pardons for this my presumption in so early an acquaintance, but if ever there be any thing wherein in the future I can serve you, the effectuating it shall be the greatest pleasure imaginable to

Sir, your most obedient servant,

ALEXANDER GORDON.

The work referred to by Gordon, was a thin folio, printed at Edinburgh in 1703, entitled Historical Enquiries concerning the Roman Monuments and Antiquities in the North part of Britain called Scotland; by Sir Robert Sibbald, M.D. At the date of Gordon's letter it was then very rare, and is now not often seen. Anderson was a very obliging person, and there can be but little doubt that Gordon was allowed to retain possession of the so much coveted tome.

'The Baron' was Sir John Clerk of Pennycook, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, a Scotish antiquary of considerable eminence. Anderson, it is almost needless to mention, was the editor of the well-known Diplomata Scotiæ, the preparation of which ruined him.

Paton was a bookseller at Edinburgh, the father of George Paton, the correspondent of Gough; and who collected a library, which, as regarded Scotish literature, was the finest ever formed in Scotland. His letters to Gough, with a large collection of letters addressed to himself, are in the library of the Faculty of Advocates. The letters of Bishop Percy, with those of several other eminent persons, were, at the suggestion of Sir Walter Scott, edited, with an Introduction and Notes, by James Maidment, Esq., Advocate, and published some years since at Edinburgh, by Stevenson; but the volume has long been, to use a bookseller's phrase, out of print.

It is somewhat surprising that, although Anderson did so much and so well for the history of his own country, few people South the Tweed know much about him. In England, no private individual ever produced such a work as the Diplomata Scotiæ, and the publications of the Original Record Commissioners are merely monuments of unnecessary expenditure; for the most part, instead of finding their ways to libraries for general use, are consigned to the tobacconist, or the trunkmaker, — in truth, for one-fourth of the public money so squandered, all the most valuable records possessing interest, might have been printed; and that too in a most satisfactory manner.

Edinburgh, Nov. 5. M.

HEARNE'S UNPUBLISHED REMAINS.

The Manuscript Diaries of the Oxford Antiquary, edited by Rev. Philip Bliss, D.D., are announced for publication; they are replete with biographical minutiæ, personal anecdote, and historical gossip, more particularly illustrative of the local antiquities, and by-gone habits and manners of the University. The impression is limited; in 2 vols. octavo, 150 copies, at Two guineas; 50 copies, in 2 vols. on LARGE PAPER, at Three pounds ten shillings, to range with Hearne's publications, issued by himself. The work is printed for subscribers only, and names are received by Messrs. Willis and Sotheran.

RELICS OF THE FAMILY OF THE STUARTS.

Henry, Cardinal of York, bequeathed to an officer of his household, designated his *gentiluomo*, certain jewels and weapons, of considerable intrinsic value for their artistic merits, but more especially interesting from the circumstance of their having been the property at different periods of various members of the House of Stuart. This collection of the Stuart relics has recently been purchased at Rome, for Lord John Scott, for about 600*l*., from the person to whom they were bequeathed, and consist of the following articles: —

An enamelled medallion of the order of St. George, formerly worn by King Charles the First.

A ring with a cameo portrait in ivory of King James the Second. A gold ring with a white rose in enamel, worn by the same monarch, and by his son, the Pretender, designated King James III.

The ring worn by the latter, on his marriage with the Princess Clementina Sobieski; also the marriage ring of his son Prince Charles Edward, enclosing an exquisite small miniature.

An emerald seal, formerly belonging to James III.; and a chalcedony seal, engraved with the order of St. Andrew. A dial and compass mounted in silver, formerly belonging to Charles Stuart.

Charles Edward Stuart's watch seal, bearing the motto —CHACVN À SON TOVR. Cardinal York's seal, with the Royal arms of England.

A ring, with a miniature portrait, when young, of Prince Henry Stuart, afterward Cardinal Duke of York.

A ring with a cameo portrait of James Sobieski, great uncle of the Pretender's wife; by the celebrated gem engraver Pickler.

A ring with a cameo portrait of the wife of Prince Charles Edward, by the same artist.

A ring with a cameo portrait of Prince Charles Edward; and another, with a similar portrait of the Duchess of Albany. Another, containing a lock of her hair. A portrait of the Duchess of Albany's mother.

The weapons comprise the blade of King John Sobieski's sword. A jasper-handled dagger taken from the tent of a Turkish Bey, at the siege of Vienna; and a pair of richly ornamented pistols, formerly the property of the Sobieski family.

The highly valuable collection of Antiquities and articles of Art and Vertu, formed by Mr. Hertz, of Argyle-street, including those purchased at Mr. Rogers' recent sale, have been added to that formed by Joseph Mayer, Esq., who with princely munificence has presented the whole to the town of Liverpool, in aid of establishing their Museum, of which he will ever remain the principal founder.

Vita brevis, Ars longa. Whence is this well known adage derived? H. C.

From Hippocrates: the adage 'Life is short, Art is long,' is a translation of the first of his Aphorisms.

FIGURES OF PRELATES ON TOMBS.

Whence originated the practice of placing the effigies of deceased Prelates on their Tombs? S. M.

In the third volume of Spelman's Concilia, it is stated: Thomas de Marleberg, abbot of Evesham was the first person who introduced the custom of placing such figures upon sepulchral monuments, which he did on the tombs of two of his predecessors, and also on a third designed for himself. He died in 1213.

LORD PANMURE AND ROSS'S MONUMENT.

In Current Notes, August 1855, p. 62, it will be observed, notice was there made, that the monument which was raised by subscription to the memory of Alexander Ross, A.M., the schoolmaster and poet, of Loch Lee, was then misplaced, in so far as it was erected in the *new* burial ground of the parish, fully a mile distant from the old one in which the poet and his wife were both interred. This was occasioned by the obstinate whim of a late minister of the parish who determined the monument should become an ornament to the new burial ground; and accordingly, contrary to the desire of the subscribers, and the urgent remonstrances of many disinterested parties persisted in its being so misplaced. Our observations upon the subject having happily fallen under the notice of Lord Panmure, the proprietor of this romantic district, his Lordship, during his recent visit there, caused Ross's memorial to be taken from the new church, and placed at the head of the poet's grave, in the fine old burial ground, within a pistol shot distance of which are also the ruins of the poet's dwelling house, and the parish school in which he taught the youth of the neighbourhood for more than fifty-two years.

The monument is simply a plain tablet of Aberdeen granite, inscribed with his birth in 1699, and his death, in 1784, and referring to his literary labours.* His songs of the Rock an' the Wee pickle tow; To the biggin we will go; Wooed an' married an' a; and many others are as popularly well known; and sung by the peasantry between the rivers of Tay and Spey, as are those of Burns. Dr. Beattie, of Minstrel notoriety, was Ross's contemporary and intimate friend; and having upon one occasion visited him at Loch Lee, wrote him a curious address, in Scottish verse.

Since the death of Ross, many a young poet, some of whom their country is now proud to honour, have made pilgrimages to his romantically situated grave; and by the absurdly misplacing of his monument, many have left the district, wending on their way, in the belief that no memorial marked his last deposit, or honoured his genius; but the recurrence of these apprehensions has now been obviated by the prompt and laudable interposition of Lord Panmure, who, amidst the many honours so justly gained from his Queen and country, has thus also insured the humble gratitude of every admirer of Scottish Poets and Poetry.

* See Mr. Andrew Jervise's History and Traditions of the Land of the Lindsays, 1853, 8vo. p. 73.

BOAR'S HEAD TAVERN, EASTCHEAP.

Is Washington Irving's account of the following Epitaph in St. Michael's Church, Crooked Lane, on the tomb of Robert Preston, whilom drawer at the Boar's Head Tavern, in Eastcheap, true, or a pleasant fiction of that most pleasant writer in his very fictitious article in the Sketch Book, on that famous Tavern?

Bacchus to give the toping world surprise,
Produced one sober son, and here he lies.
Though rear'd among full hogsheads, he defy'd
The charms of wine, and ev'ry charm beside.
O reader! if to justice thou'rt inclined,
Keep honest Preston daily in thy mind:
He drew good wine, took care to fill his pots;
Had sundry virtues that excused his faults.
You that on Bacchus have the like dependence,
Pray copy Bob in measure and attendance.

Perhaps some of your readers can tell me? I have a purpose in ascertaining its truth.

Needham Market, Nov. 4. LINCOLN GREEN.

In the church-yard of St. Michael, Crooked-lane, was formerly a tablet to the memory of Robert Preston, late drawer at the Boar's Head Tavern, in Great Eastcheap, who departed this life, March 16, 1730, aged twenty-seven years; followed by the ten lines quoted by our correspondent. They were first noticed and printed in the London Magazine for August, 1733.

FEMALE PROFESSORS OF SCIENCE.

By the following extract from Malden, on the Origin of Universities, p. 63, it appears that the United States of America is not the only country where the ladies share with the sterner sex the privilege of competing for academical distinctions.

One of the most singular points in the history of the University of Bologna, is the admission of the female sex to its honours and offices. There is mention in early times of learned women on whom degrees were conferred. It is said that Novella d'Andera read lectures on jurisprudence, but took the precaution of drawing a curtain between herself and her auditors. Mrs. Piozzi mentions La Dottoressa Laura Brassi, who taught arithmetic and natural philosophy; and Lady Morgan has introduced us to Signora Clotilda Tambroni, a learned professor of Greek. But the boldest inroad into the scientific province of the ruder sex was made by Madame Manzolina, who lectured on anatomy.

St. Alban's Parsonage, Gateshead. E. H. A.

SUFFOLK TRADITIONAL CURE FOR FITS.

In the following rustic prescription, that little animal the Mole, is the victim to an absurd and ignorant belief.

A friend, resident in the most north-easterly part of Suffolk, was thus recently addressed by an old woman: —I wish, Sir, yow'd catch me a live Moll. For what purpose? asked my informant. Why, Sir, you see my darter's little gal is got fits, and I'm told that if I get a live Moll, cut the tip of his nose off, and let nine drops bleed onter a lump of sugar, and give that to the child, 'tis a sartin cure.

Nov. 14. JOHN F. FOWLER.

ULTIMUM VALE, A

LAST FAREWELL OF THOMAS, EARLE OF STRAFFORD,

Written by himselfe a little before his death.

[Reprinted from the original broad sheet.]

Farewell vain World, farewell my fleeting joyes,
Whose best of musick's but an Echo's noyse;
And all the lustre of your painted light,
But as dull dreams and fantoms of the night.
Empty your pleasures too, nor can they last
Longer than aire-puft bubbles, or a blast.

Farewell you fading Honours, which do blinde
By your false mists the sharpest sighted minde;
And having raised him to his height of cares,
Tumble him headlong down the slippery stairs.
How shall I praise or prise your glorious ills,
Which are but poyson put in golden pills.

Farewell my Blus'tring Titles, ne'er come backe,
You've sweld my sailes until my mastings cracke,
And made my Vessel reele against the rocks
Of gaping ruine, whose destructive knocks
Hath helplesse left me, sinking, here to lie:
The cause? I raised my main-top sailes too high.

Farewell Ambition, since we needs must part,
Thou great Inchantresse of man's greater heart:
Thy gilded titles that do seeme so faire,
Are but like meteors hanging in the aire:
In whose false splendor, falling thence, is found
No worth, but water-like shed on the ground.

Farewell the Glory, from which all the rest
Derive the sweets for which men style them blest,
That from one root in several branches spring;
I meane—The favor of my Gratious King:
This too, hath led my wand'ring soule astray,
Like *Ignis Fatuus* from its righter way.

Farewell my Friends, I need not bid you go;
When Fortune flies, you freely will doe so:
Worship the rising, not the setting Sun.
The house is falling, Vermin quickly run.
Bees from the wither'd flowers do make haste:
The reason? Because they have lost their taste.

Farewell the Treasures of my tempting store,
Which of all Idols I did least adore;
Haste to some Idiot's coffer, and hee'l bee
Thy slave, as I have master been to thee.
Heaven knowes of all the suitors that I had,
I prized thee least, as counting none so bad.

Lastly, my Foes Farewell: for such I have
Who do in multitudes wait for my grave;
'Mongst which I can't beleeve but some there be
That hate my vices only, and not me:
Let them passe ore my fame without a blot,
And let the vulgar snatch, they know not what.

Let them besmeare me by the chatt'ring notes,
Poor silly hearts, which echo through their throtes;
I'll passe it ore and pray, with patience too;
Father forgive, they know not what they do.

Yet O! I could have woo'd my treach'rous Fate
T'have let me died without the publique hate.

London, printed 1641.

WIMBORNE MINSTER LIBRARY.

Some time since, a correspondent in Dorsetshire discoursed pleasantly concerning the old library attached to Wimborne Minster. I should like to draw his attention *en passant* to its present state. When down there recently I did not forget to inquire for it, when the sexton conducted me to a damp vestry, where the books were piled on the stone floor in dreary disorder. The damp had already commenced its ravages upon them, and the sexton mournfully hinted at the prospect of the coming winter. Upon one, a Manuscript of the Gospels, mouldy decay was already visible. The reason assigned is, that a new library is being built to receive these books; but if more care is not taken, the new library will be only suitable for their grave.

I assure Mr. Garland that I have not overstated their present condition.

Needham Market, Nov. 4. LINCOLN GREEN.

CENTENARIAN QUEEN OF THE LAKE.

Toward the close of the seventeenth century was born the memorable Margaret uch Evan of Penllyn, of whom it may be truly said—How little was it thought while the bantling crawled upon the floor, and feebly tottered to gain its mother's knee, unable to lisp her native tongue, that she in particular should live to become so celebrated an example of the spirit and strength of the ancient British fair. Pennant observes of her—This extraordinary female was the greatest fisher, hunter, and the best shooter of her time: she kept at least a dozen dogs, terriers, greyhounds, and spaniels, all excellent in their kinds. She killed more foxes in one year than all the confederated hunters do in ten.* Mistress of most mechanical arts, she was a good joiner, and while under contract to convey the copper ore down the lakes, she built her own boats, rowed them stoutly, and was the Queen of the Lake. She made her own shoes; and as a blacksmith, made the shoes, and shod her own horses. She made harps, and well versed in all the old British airs, fiddled excellently. Many of the neighbouring bards paid their addresses to her, and celebrated her many exploits, in pure heroic British verse; till at length, as if determined to maintain the superiority which Nature had so pre-eminently bestowed upon her, she gave her hand to the most effeminate of her admirers. In most field diversions she had no superior, and even at the age of seventy was considered the best wrestler in the county, so that few young men dared to try a fall with her. She had a maid-servant of congenial qualities, but Death ere long earthed this faithful companion; and Margaret herself, having lived through an entire century, at length succumbed to this mighty monitor in 1801, when she had attained her one hundred and fifth year.

Harbledown. S.

* Journey to Snowdon, 1781, p. 158.

RELICS OF ALEXANDER SELKIRK.

Howell, in the Introduction to his Life and Adventures of Alexander Selkirk, printed at Edinburgh, 1829; mentions seeing in 1823, the cup and chest that had once belonged to Robinson Crusoe, the name by which he has been rendered an object of so much interest, in the house at Largo, so admirably and so recently pourtrayed in Current Notes, pp. 73-74. He also notices no information was then obtainable 'except a few vague traditions repeated by an old man, a relative of Alexander Selkirk's, who possessed the precious relics, and dwelt in the house:' this it would seem was the husband of the now surviving widow Gillies, alluded to by your correspondent.

In the spring of 1825, Howell discovered in the person of John Selcrag, a teacher of youth, at Canonmills, a village near Edinburgh, a veritable grand-nephew of Alexander Selkirk, who was in possession of two relics which had once belonged to his distinguished relative: a staff, or walking-stick, and his flip-can—the latter, in an appeal, printed in February, 1841, for assistance to alleviate the then distressed condition of the owner, an aged and indigent man—is described as being made of brown glazed stone ware, resembling a common porter jug, and holding about a Scottish pint. Every thing that belonged to a sailor in the olden time, that would admit of it, had its rhyme, and this flip-can had the following inscription and posy: —

Alexander Salkurke, this is my one [i.e. own].
When you me take on bord of ship,
Pray fill me full with punch or flipp.

Fulham.

Alexander Selkirk obtained this stone ware jug from the pottery at Fulham, about the middle of 1703, while waiting for the equipment and sailing of the Cinque Ports Galley, to which he had been appointed sailing master. That the flip-can, as his grand-nephew designated it, doubtless accompanied him on his voyage, was with him on the island of Juan Fernandez, and was brought home by him, there cannot reasonably be entertained any doubt; and it appears that it had been highly venerated in the family, had been generally locked up, and, at one time, by a niece, during fifty years. It had been cracked, and to prevent the crack from extending, Selkirk had himself while at sea attached a patch of pitch: this had also been specially retained. Can any correspondent of Current Notes state where these relics are now deposited? The fact of 'Fulham' being attached to the distich, as the place of fabrication, renders the Jug an object of interest as a specimen of the early pottery, for which Lambeth and Vauxhall are now so deservedly celebrated.

Selkirk doubtless never dreamed of the posthumous fame that awaited him: it is not certified that he communicated any papers to De Foe, who it would seem based his glorious fiction on the Voyages to the South Sea, and round the World, by Captain Edward Cook, printed in 1712, in 2 volumes, 8vo.

Woolwich, Nov. 3. E. M.

THE JEWS NOT THE ARBITERS OF EUROPE.

Allix's Refutation of the last Hope of the Jews, may serve as a refutation of Von Haxthausen: and, it may be remarked, one does not see how Von Haxthausen's assertion, that the Jews are now our servants, can be reconciled with what follows, that the Jews are now to a great extent the arbiters of the fate of Europe; or, how his further views can be reconciled with Revelation? On the Divine authority, we may rest satisfied, the Jews have no more important a destiny in the affairs of Europe, than this, and truly of no small importance, namely, to be witnesses for God to the end of the world, to all who believe not their Messiah, our Christ, God and Man, manifested to destroy the works of the Devil, in love to our souls, and to bring us nigh to God.

Clifton, Bristol. HORATIO MONTAGU.

LORD COCKBURN'S MEMORIALS.

The accuracy of the late Lord Cockburn, with reference to several statements in his recently published Memorials, has been impugned. Among other charges is the one he has related of the Judge at Gerald's trial, in 1794; a remark, it was asserted, that was at most—an after thought; but on referring to Pryse Lockhart Gordon's Memoirs and Reminiscences, I found, as I anticipated, if the authority of Mr. Gordon, who affirms he was present at the trial, be trustworthy, and this there is no reason to question; a strong confirmation of Lord Cockburn's story. Subjoined are both versions —

In his [Gerald's] speech, which was anything but a defence, he unfortunately attacked the Lord Chief Justice M[ansfield,] a severe judge, and a bitter enemy to reform. The prisoner at the bar stated—'that it was reform and not revolution which he wanted, and that Jesus Christ was a reformer.' Weel, sir, and muckle did he get by that! Was na' he crucified? The most brutal and impious remark that ever came from the mouth of a Judge. Gordon, vol. i. p. 149.

The reporter of Gerald's case could not venture to make the prisoner say more than 'that Christianity was an innovation,' but the full truth is, that in stating this view, he added, that all great men had been reformers—'even our Saviour himself.' 'Muckle he made o' that,' chuckled Braxfield, in an under tone—'he was hanget.' Cockburn's Memorials, p. 117. K. Y. E.

NE SUTOR ULTRA CREPIDAM.

In one of the principal streets in Fisherrow, near Musselburgh, is the following sign-board —

BuTOOS AND
SHOUS repreD
HeR HouF BuRNSS

It was copied by myself as nearly as possible to the original, and is, I think, as a curiosity from a land celebrated for good and cheap education, worthy of a place in your Notes,

Haddington, Nov. 5. ROBERT PAPE.

ERRATA.—P. 84, col. 2, l. 10, for pellets, read pallets. P. 86, col. 2, l. 38, for edition, read addition. P. 87, col. 2, for hort read host.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXII.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [DECEMBER, 1856.

FEUDS OF THE VEITCHES AND TWEEDIES.

These two families, though now of little notoriety, were at a former period, of some importance. James, whom it has been the fashion of late to ridicule; had during his Scotish reign, adopted every measure in his power to tame the "perferoidum genus Scotorum," and as he was not very scrupulous in the means used, was so successful, that when he ascended the English throne, his native country was making rapid strides towards civilization. Had he lived ruler of Ireland, a few years longer, Ulster would not have remained the only portion of that country in which life and property were deemed safe. James was in fact a much wiser man than his son Charles, and fully as honest. The following unpublished letter, addressed to the Lords Privy Council, relative to the feuds between the Veitches and the Tweedies, goes far to establish the vigour of his Scotish administration—

Right Trustie and Well beloved Cousins and Counsellors, We greet you well. Whereas We understand that the deadly feud between the Veitches and Tweedies is as yet unreconciled, and our peace kept between them only by the means of renewing of assurance from time to time; but since we came so far by great pains in our person or during our stay there, and by our continued directions sinsyne, and suppressed that monster within that kingdom, so as We do hardly think that there be any feud except this unreconciled, and the wrongs and mischiefs done by either of them, as we understand to others being in such a proportion of a compensation as neither part boast of advantage or otherways unless he be himself too much blind. Therefore our Pleasure and Will is, that you call before you the principals of either surname, and then take such course for removing of the Feud, and reconciling as We have been accustomed to do in the like cases: And, whoever shall disobey your commands and directions, you shall commit them prisoners and certifie us thereof to the effect We may return unto you our further pleasure and will therein. And so we bid you farewell.

From our Court at Greenwich, the 10th of March, 1611.

The Veitches and the Tweedies were a higher class of border marauders; the Elliotts had not then come into much notice.

Edinburgh, Dec. 5. M.

The study of antiquities constantly reveals some adventitious feature in elucidation of the history of the past, and opening the way to an infinite number of diverging results, frequently differing widely from the generally accredited opinion, but which only a patient and skilful pertinacity of research, can render successfully available.

COLUMNAR ORNAMENT IN GULVAL CHURCH.

The meaning of the centre representation on the pillar in Gulval Church, referred to by your correspondent, HENRY WILLIAMS, in Current Notes, p 90, no doubt, represents the White Lily, (Lilium Candidum) in dedication to the Virgin Mary, mother of Christ.

Yarmouth. W.

ARMS TO PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATIVES.

I have heard it stated that prior to the Commonwealth, any person who became a member of Parliament, if he had not a coat of arms, had one granted to him. I should feel obliged if, through the medium of Current Notes, it were notified that such was the fact; and where a list of such arms may be found?

Also, is there any list of arms of the members of Parliament, Lord Mayors and Sheriffs of the City of York?

Rotherham, Dec. 12. A SEA LAWYER.

Chivalry with its gorgeous splendour during the reigns of Elizabeth and James was evidently waning, and had lost much of its original attractions by the substitution and intermixture of Italian shows, while the Military ardour which was its chief impetus, had greatly subsided; the pride of ancestry, seems at this era to have been very generally avowed and encouraged in opposition to those of newly-acquired pretensions. The practice of the law, and the wealth arising from commercial advantages, had, in fact, created a new order in society who were ambitious of the ensigns and rank of gentility, and these honours were not obtainable from the heralds but upon the strictest inquiry, and frequent references to the Institutes of the Earl Marshal's Court, serve only to authenticate the equity and liberality which directed most of their proceedings in days, invidiously, perhaps, deemed gothic, savage, and unlettered, but certainly those when just claims only were confirmed, and real merit obtained its rewards. The fact of being returned as a parliamentary representative, conferred doubtless a rank of gentility on persons whose family possibly in a previous generation, the heralds might have deemed ineligible to armorial honours, and in that light only could be connected with our correspondent's enquiry. The grants of arms to all or any of such claimants are to be found only upon search of name in the records of the College of Arms.

Lists of names of the High Sheriffs of York, the Parliamentary representatives, the Mayor and Bailiffs, Lord Mayors and Sheriffs, to1735, are printed in Drake's History of York, 1736, fol. pp. 350-367, but the armorial distinctions are not particularised.

M

HOLYWELL, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

The parish church is a gem in its way for any person of an ecclesiological taste, and greatly resembles in form those so frequently observable in Kent. It has a square tower, but no spire, has a regular nave, lateral aisles, and a perfect chancel. The piercings for the windows are much like those we see in the ruined abbey and church walls, which had their day some six or seven centuries since. A pointed arch forms the windows, but a stone mullion in the centre divides it into two light lancet arches within. In the chancel there are three very narrow windows on the south side, and two on the north. The other windows are of elegant formation, while the fretted quoins and mullions have a venerable aspect. The exterior walls are covered with a yellowish kind of lichen; and the roof seems tanned as it were by the effects of Sol's rays during the lapse of centuries. On one of the beams of the roof, in the interior, is the date 1595. The pews have a coarse old appearance, and are mostly all open. The font is large, and has an aperture at bottom, but was evidently constructed for the dipping of children, in accordance with the general practice in England, until with Calvin's dogmas of faith, sprinkling or affusion was substituted.

Is there any known legend or tradition in connection with the well that gives name to the parish of Holywell, similar as it might be premised to that of the famous well of St. Winifred, that supplies the name to the parish of Holywell in Flintshire? The well here, with a view to its preservation, is now enclosed by a newly constructed wall, and partly covered over. Whatever was the legendary story, it seems now to be wholly unknown to the present generation of the inhabitants. Can any reader of Current Notes supply any facts in reference to this legend?

Downpatrick, Dec. 18. JAMES A. PILSON.

WALLINGTON'S JOURNAL.—In Notes and Queries, vol. v. p. 489, is an inquiry respecting a manuscript journal of Nehemiah Wallington, 1618-36, that was sold at the dispersion of Gulston's library in 1784. At that sale it was purchased by Mr. George Baker of St. Paul's Churchyard, and in 1824, if not before, passed into the Upcott Collection, from which it was purchased for the Corporation Library, Guildhall, London, for Twenty-five pounds.

CONTINENTAL SIGNS AND SIGN-BOARDS.

The good old custom of placing a sign above the shop by way of distinction, from the very general mode of numbering now adopted, has been rendered unnecessary in England, and is with us almost extinct. It is only in our hostelries that signs have been retained, and in many instances these are becoming superseded in the grander Hotels; however, we still in general look for real comfort and good old English cheer at the Tabard or at the Boar.

All persons who have visited foreign parts must have noticed that signboards though rare with us, are commonly in use abroad; and the peculiarities of these countries, their past history, or legendary lore are there retained in their original and quaint guise.

The employments of the districts which find markets for their goods in particular cities or towns, are readily perceptible in the signs which hang over the shop doors. In North France, they are resplendent in colour and gilding; in Holland they are quaint and sober; in Germany they are generally substantial, and often wildly imaginative; and in Belgium, a mixture of each of these countries, with an air of pasteboard and negligé, not very inviting, however attractive or good may be the contents of the shop. This classification may of course be carried into the provinces and minor divisions, where the neighbourhood of the cloth manufactory, or spinning-wheel, the hop-ground, or the flax-field is perceptibly stamped with tolerable plainness in the signs of the principal towns; but nowhere are signs and signboards seen to better advantage than at Lille, the centre of a fertile and rich district, the market of a busy and industrious people, the chief city in North France, and in truth, the paradise of good shops and polite merchants.

Bordering on Flanders, the old historical memories of the land of artizans and people-power remain on the signs. Lille, indeed, is still the capital of a little manufacturing kingdom, rendered by its own industry and natural fertility tolerably independent.

The golden signs predominate in Lille, as indeed they do in all parts of French Flanders, and in their ludicrous connection with the commonest articles of every-day life, they bring back the story of Midas's touch of gold, and its unfortunate results.

Small and common as it may seem, the sketch of the Green Knight—

made by me from a sign, while rambling in the streets of Lille, in August last; serves to awaken some few historical reflections. The 'Flander's mare,' clumsy, fleshy, and thick set, reminds one of Cuyp's pastures, and the remark in connection of Anne of Cleves, and her sometime lord and master, our own bluff Harry, while the Knight who bestrides the prancing steed, with his cloud formed cloak and sword almost as long as himself, smacks somewhat of the Spanish occupation. The sign subscribed LE CHEVALIER. VERT., is in date probably of that awful period in the history of the Netherlands, whose annals are inscribed in letters of blood.

Dec. 4. T. HARWOOD PATTISON.

ROYAL LICENCE FOR IMPRESSMENT OF SURGEONS.

The following inedited document of authority affords good evidence of the low condition of the surgical practice in the metropolis on the accession of Queen Elizabeth, and cannot be perused without exciting considerable interest.

Holbein, on whose skill as a painter, Du Fresnoy thus expatiates—his execution surpassed even that of Raffaelle, and I have seen a portrait of his painting, with which one of Titian's could not come in competition; has in his glorious picture of king Henry the Eighth granting the Charter to the Barber Surgeons' Company, eternised the portrait of Thomas Vicary, the Queen's Serjeant Surgeon; it is to him, the burly monarch and father of Her Majesty is delivering the charter as the chief of the company.

The Great seal has been torn from the original licence, but there are remains to prove that it was formerly attached.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

ELIZABETH, by the grace of God, Quene of Englond, Fraunce, and Irelonde, Defender of the faith, etc.

To All Mayours, Sheriffs, Baylliffs, Constables, and all other our Offycers, Mynisters and Subiects thees our Lettres hearinge or seinge, and to euery of them greetinge.

We lett you wete, that for certeyn consideracions us mouinge we haue by theise presents auctorised and lycensed oure Trustie and Welbeloued Seruaunte THOMAS VYCARY, Sergeant of our Surgions and the Wardens of the Fellowshipp of the said Surgeons within our Cytie of London that now be or hereafter shalbe, that they by themselfs, or their assigne, bearer hereof, shal and may from hensforth, take and reteyne at our wages as well within the Cytie of London, as elsewhere within any other Cytie, Towne, Boroughe or other place within this our Realme, as well franchised and privileged as not franchised nor privileged, suche and as many Surgions as they shall thinke mete and able from tyme to tyme to doe unto us seruyce in the scyence of Surgerie at any season hereafter as well by sea as lande, and further that the Sergeant and Wardeyns aforesaide shal or maye take of suche as be not able to serve, suche instruments and other stuff of Surgerie as they shal thinke mete to same, agreinge and payinge therfor, to all suche of whom any suche instruments or stuff shal be taken.

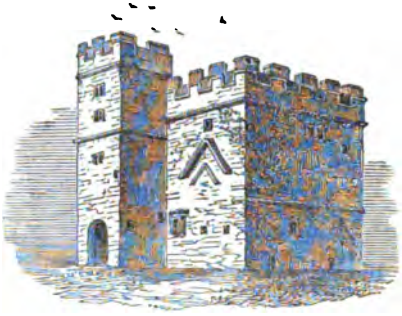
Wherfore We woll and comaunde you, and eũy of you that unto our saide Sergiant and the Wardeyns aforesaid, and their assigne, bearer hereof, in the due execucion of this our aucthoritie and lycense, Ye be aydinge, helpinge and assistinge as ofte as the case shal require without any your denyall, lett, or contradycion, as ye and eũy of you tender our pleasure and woll auoide the contrary at your peril.

In Witness whereof, We have caused theis our Lettres of Commissyon to be sealed with our Greate Seale.

Wytness ourself at Westmynstre, the [*torn by fold*] th day of December [1559] the seconde yere of our Reigne.

PENGERSICK CASTLE, WEST CORNWALL.

The traveller as he passes along the Helston-road, in the parish of Breage, may descry at about half a mile distance, in a picturesque valley which slopes to the sea, the ruins of Pengersick Castle. A visit thither would amply repay the artist or the antiquary, and as no view of it has hitherto been engraved, I respectfully submit to the readers of Current Notes, the accompanying illustration.



The local historians state that the barton and manor of Pengersick,* was in the reign of Henry the Eighth, purchased in his son's name by—Milliton, a gentleman, who having by accident or otherwise committed murder, immured himself in a private chamber in the tower of the castle, and was so effectually concealed from any judicial inquiry, that except to a few friends, nothing was known respecting him, until upon his death, his retreat was discovered.

Whether this castellated mansion, the family seat of the Millitons was built by them, or previously, is not recorded. In 1547, Job Milliton, the son above noticed, was appointed governor of St. Michael's Mount, in place of Humphrey Arundell, who was executed for rebellion. William Milliton, his only son, who had the honour of being Sheriff of Cornwall, died without issue, in 1595, when the family estate was divided among his six sisters, who became his heiresses.

Sir Nicholas Hals, Knight, on his first coming into Cornwall, from Efford, in Devonshire, purchased a portion of the lands, and occasionally resided at Pengersick and Trewinard, till he removed to Fintongollen. John Hals the thriftless son and heir to Sir Nicholas, by his imprudence, caused all the growing timber at Pengersick, of which according to tradition, 'there was great store,' to be cut down and sold. Some portion of the lands passed to the Duke of Leeds, as the representative of the Godolphin family.

The tower of the castle consists of three stories, a passage of winding steps leads to the roof, from which there is a pleasing though not extensive prospect.

On the ground floor, the walls are pierced with loop-

* Pen-gar-wick, also Pen-gars-wick otherwise Pengweras-ike. See Gilbert's Cornwall.

holes, and many of the apartments have fallen in. Those which remain are used by a farmer as haylofts and granaries. On the wainscot of the upper story, elaborately carved and painted, are some quaint verses, now nearly effaced. The following are specimens :

The one nedith the other ys helpe
The laime wyche lacketh for to goe,
Is borne upon the blynde is back,
So mutually between them twoe :
The one supplieth the other's lack ;
The blynde to laime doth lend his might,
The laime to blynde doth yeld his sight.

These lines have reference to a painting of a blind-man, bearing one who is lame on his back.

PERSEVERANCE.

What thing is harder than a rock?
What softer is than water clear?
But will the same with often drop
The hard rock pierce as doth appear,
Even so nothing so hard to attayne,
But may be had with labour and payne.

The arms of the Milliton family were from a supposed punning allusion to their name, a chevron, between three millot fishes hariant or erected, whereas Milliton is a mill-town.

Penzance, Dec. 2.

ETHELFLEDA, THE 'LADY' OF MERCIA.

England, notwithstanding the supposed ignorance of geographical knowledge manifested by most nations in the earlier annals of the world, appears to have been 'the golden land,' to which the most ruthless migratory inroads by hordes of barbarian northmen were ostensibly directed and though attacked successively by armed hosts sufficiently caparisoned and inured to military evolutions, that on any other soil, would have served to annihilate the very character and name of its aborigines, still their innate bravery, and the irresistible pluck of the natives, has ever served to sustain their indomitable genius, which like hope was and is ever directed to the future, constantly undaunted in the conflict, and unconquered in death.

At the period of Alfred's accession, the Danes by their brutal ferocity, had caused great devastation, and the Angles partially depressed by the innumerable hosts of their assailants, experienced extreme misery and privation. Mercia, wholly in the power of the Danes, was most mercilessly ravaged, the greater part of the nobility—had either fallen in battle, or had been driven from their homes, and few but the peasantry or churls remained, to undergo oppression and plunder by Ceolwulf, a Thane, who was advanced by the Danes to be for a time, *their* king or governor of Mercia.* The desperation these events caused, excited the energies of many persons whose characters stand forth magnificently illustrious in English History, but to none can Englishmen point with greater pride than to Ethelfleda, the youngest daughter of Alfred ; the sister of Edward, surnamed the elder, who 'every inch a king,' majestically supported the functions of the monarch ; and the wife of Ethelred, then Ealdorman of Mercia, which, by its absorption with other states, had then ceased to be a kingdom. In her person, emphatically styled 'the Lady' of Mercia, Ethelfleda appears to have characteristically embodied the soul-moving Heroine of Romance, to have been embued with the sturdy valour of Ariosto's Bradamante; and to have shewn on all occasions, the prowess of 'the bold Virago' as she was termed by all the monkish writers; nor was her decision or prudence inferior to her bravery.

Chester, that had been strongly fortified by the Romans, and after the Roman period, successively occupied by the Britons and the Anglo-Saxons, was during the invasions of this period, abandoned by the latter; but the Danes in 894, occupied it as a place of succour against the advances of Alfred; they in their turn, were driven thence; and in 908, Ethelred having possession restored much of the ruined buildings, and walled it about, enclosing the castle which till then had been beyond its limits.

In 912, Ethelred died, and the rule in Mercia devolved upon his widow Ethelfleda, who, having been taught by experience that much of the Danish success in their depredations was in great part owing to their defensive fortifications, and that amidst all their apparent irregularity, they effectually carried on war by system; adopted the same course of strategy; and every place or point that could be rendered defensible, she promptly secured. Worcester, her capital, had been fortified by Ethelred. Hovenden, and other chroniclers mention her proceeding with a large force, on May 6, 913, to Sceargate, or Shiregate, and there built a strong castle; and another on the west bank of the Severn, called Bridge, otherwise Bridgenorth, in Shropshire. In the spring of 914, she went to Tamworth, restored the town, and built the castle; thence, according to Matthew of Westminster, and Florence of Worcester, she proceeded to Stafford, and repaired that castle. In 915, as Hovenden records, she built Edesbury or Eddesbury, and fortified Warwick; and in 916, as Florence of Worcester relates, she built Cherbury, which he designates Cyriebyrig; Runcorn and other places were also successfully protected by the ramparts which she raised. Each year of her sovereignty was characterised by bold and well-directed measures. In 917, occurred the memorable assault on Brecanmere, or Brecknock, designated by the Welsh—Gweyth y Dinas Newydh, i.e. the battle of the new city. Johannes Castoreus thus narrates the particulars.

Huganus, Lord of West Wales, perceiving king Edward to be occupied far enough from him, in the Danish war; gathered an army of Britons, and entered the

* Ceolwulf, is said to have been the minister of Burgred, who when the latter was driven from his throne by the Danes, seized on the government, for a short time, till his own expulsion in 874 terminated the independence. The coins struck by Ceolwulf are the last of that Saxon kingdom.

king's territories. Ethelfleda, king Edward's sister, upon hearing this, advanced with a strong army to Wales, and fought the rebellious Welshmen at Brecknock, where having put Huganus and his followers to flight, she took as captives the wife of Huganus, with thirty-four of his men, and led them with her into Mercia. Huganus thus discomfited, fled to Derby, where being of the people peaceably received, he in 918 with fifteen men at arms, and two hundred well appointed soldiers, joined king Edward's adversaries, the Danes. The men of Derby having certified this to the dauntless Ethelfleda, she followed him with a powerful force, to the gates of that town, and four of her chief officers were there slain; but her steward, Gwyane, Lord of the Isle of Ely; having set fire to, and burned the gates, the Britons being vigorously assaulted, Huganus overmatched, and choosing to die by the sword, rather than yield himself unto a woman, was there slain.

By the capture of Derby, and of Leicester in 919, were achieved great advantages, and having forced the Danes to a capitulation, Ethelfleda thus regained important portions of the old Mercian territory, and the submission of the Danish hosts stationed in and near these towns comprised her authority.

Ethelfleda died at Tamworth, in 919, soon after these successful assaults, and was buried by the side of her husband, in St. Peter's porch, in the cathedral of Gloucester, having ensculptered on her tomb, the following lines:—

O ELFLEDA potens, ô terror virgo virorum,
O ELFLEDA potens, nomine digna viri.
Te quoque splendidior fecit natura puellam,
Te probitas fecit nomen habere viri.
Te mutare decet sed solum nomina sexus,
Tu regina potens rexque trophea parans.
Iam nec Ca sareos tantùm mirere triumphos,
Cæsare splendidior virgo, virago vale!

When the old foundations of St Peter's church were being excavated for the building of the present edifice, the bodies of Ethelred and Ethelfleda were found together and entire.

A woodcut nearly three centuries old, proffers an imaginary portrait of this celebrated Lady. Her face to the right, a richly flowing mantle on the shoulders. Her necklace and bracelets are studded with pearls or jewels, and on her head is placed a radiant diadem or coronet. In her right hand, is a sceptre; and in her left, are flowers—that beautiful emblem, the Forget me Not, serving as a memento for remembrance to future ages—thus bloom for ever the actions of the Just.

Virago Vale! Brave Lady, Farewell!

E. P. S.

JEWELS DISCOVERED IN THE EXCHEQUER OFFICE.

A quantity of jewels was discovered there in 1841, and was at the time the subject of much conversation. The treasure thus recovered, was said to be of considerable value, and according to appearances had been hidden 150 years or more. The surmise was, the jewels had been pledged in the reign of Charles II. or James II princes of no remarkable regularity in their financial operations.

What became of these jewels, and what was their value?

J. A. P.

SURNAMES ENDING IN WELL.

Whence the origin and signification of the termination 'well,' to names of Places and Families, such as Bidwell, Boswell, Carswell, Creswell, Faxwell, Harewell, Leapingwell, Maxwell, Tanswell, Tregonwell, Tugwell, etc.? I have thought it a corruption of the Norman 'ville,' but shall be glad to receive some definite information on the subject from any of your correspondents.

Inner Temple, Dec. 1. T. P. LANGMEAD.

Hereditary surnames are said to have been adopted in the kingdoms of the Saxon Heptarchy prior to the Norman Conquest. The termination 'ville' equivalent to our 'ton' is frequent among the Norman names, and in the Battel Abbey roll. Noble held such terminations as conclusive evidence, the persons so named were Normans. The termination ville, has in frequent instances been changed or perverted into well, as Bosseville to Boswell, Fretchville to Freshwell and Fretwell, Rosseville to Roswell. Hareville, a name found in Leland's copy of the Battel Abbey roll, appears in Holinshed's more modern version as Harewell.

Verstegan in 1605, descanting on English Surnames, observes on those terminating in well, our Ancestors according to the different issue of waters, did term them differently, and among others, that which rose bubbling out of the earth, they called well-water, as if they had said, bubbling water; but this name of well grew afterward among us to be the name of the bourne-pit where out the water is drawn. In Brabant, a well is called a bourne-pit. Sundry persons coming to possess places which were near unto wells of especial note, having gotten thereby the name of such and such a well, became after them to be so called, as Staniwell, of his dwelling at a well, so named of the stoniness thereof; and Moswell, of a well where much moss did grow.

Camden, in his Notes on English Surnames, merely notices well, as a termination attached to some names: and that ville had been corruptly turned as champ into feld or field, as Baskerville into Baskerfeld or Baskerfield, and Somerville into Somerfield.

From Boswell is derived Bothwell; Verstegan in 1605, quoting the relation of some traveller in Palestine, relates a romantic fact, that passing through a town near Jerusalem, the relater heard a woman seated at a door nursing her child, singing as a lullaby,

Bothwel bank thou bloomest fayre;

surprised at the sound, he accosted her, when she, equally delighted as himself, told him she was a Scotswoman, who had passed first from Scotland to Venice, and from Venice thither, her husband being then an officer under the Turk. Robert Chambers, in his Collection of Scottish Songs, Edinb. 1829, vol. i. p. 239, has there printed John Pinkerton's song, entitled Bothwell Bank, to the Tune of Bothwell bank thou bloomest fair; it appears to have had its origin in the line quoted as that of the tune to which it was purposed to be sung; but where are to be found the words of the original Bothwell bank?

TWO VERSUS ONE.

Mr. Commissioner Goulburn, in a recent case of bankruptcy,* made a happy application of Jekyll's Epigram respecting two Doctors, to the absurdity of employing two Attornies for the purpose of saving, as was alleged, expense. I have put together a Latin version of this quatrain, which if you think proper to insert it in Current Notes, is at your service.

Lincolnshire, Nov. 28. T. W. B.

One Doctor single, like the sculler plies,
The Patient struggles, and by inches dies:
But two Physicians, like a pair of oars,
Waft him right smoothly to the Stygian shores.

Unicus ægrotum dum tractat, remigis instar,
Paulatim Medicus disperiisse videt,
Navigio celeri Stygias defertur ad undas
Cui duo dant Medici, dira viremis, opem.

T. W. B.

* In re Kirkman Lane, Solicitor, see The Times, Nov. 25, p. 11, col. 3. The whole proceedings there reported, gave occasion to the epigram having the most crowning effect.

RICE FAMILY, NORFOLK.

In the chancel of the parish church of Edingthorpe, Norfolk, on a black marble slab, is the following inscription:—

Memoriæ Sacrum
ERASMI RICE nec non dilecti fratris OLIVERI,
quod ab Avo qui et ipse Rebellem in odio habuerit,
Sortitus est Nomen.

In ERASMUM.

Pangere te juvenem mortales morte beatos
Mirati fratres id didicere tuâ.

In OLIVERUM archytam alterum.

Couldst (for this Land,) Thou hand to hand,
But rebel Noll have fought;
Dear had been then, to Englishmen,
That name now come to nought.

Ob. ERASMUS Jan. 19, 1715,
Ob. OLIVERUS . . . . .
(Mediterraneis sepultus sub undis) Anno Nati Christi 1721.

The burial register, has the entry, Mr. Erasmus Rice of Happisburgh,* was buried here, Jan. 23, 1715-16.

THEO. RICE, Rector.

Can any of your correspondents inform me to what family of the Rices, these parties belonged?

Coleford, Dec. 2. J. LAWSON SISSON.

* Happisburgh or Hapsburgh, a vicarage in Happing Hundred, see Blomefield's Norfolk, continued by Parkin, Vol. V., Lynn, 1775, pp. 853-854.

Blomefield, Vol. I. p. 584, notices Henry Ryce, rector of Merton, from May 6, 1580, till 1590, when he was deprived. Again, in the same volume, p. 574, Henry Rice, is noticed as rector of Ovington, 1601-3.

Theophilus Rice appears to have held the rectory of Edingthorpe, on presentation by Queen Anne, from 1710 till 1748.

WILLFORD'S MICRO-CHRONICON, 1651.

Lately I picked up at an old book stall, a duodecimo Manuscript volume of the 17th century, pp. 240, neatly and well written, and entitled—A genuine Description and Vse of the Perpetual Kalendar. Secondly, a Temporary Table for Twenty-two Years to come. Thirdly, an Appendix fore shewing the effects of Eclipses and Prognostications of the Weather by the Planets; the litigious Termes and Returnes; a Table of the Norman Kings; the Marts and Faires in England and Wales; with a Micro-Chronicon of Memorable Things, all rendered facile by THOMAS WILLFORD, Philomathesis.

After the title-page, which is too long to insert in full, follows an address—'To the Ingeniously Wise and Beneuolent Reader,' in which Willford refers to his 'Bookes of Astronomie,' and his 'Meteorrologicall Prognostications." A Micro-Chronicon, or Abstract of Historicall Computations collected chiefly from our English Annalls, declaring many Memorable Accidents, Remarkable Events, and Things of Note, since Cæsar invaded Britaine, continued unto the yeare of Grace, 1650, commences at p. 135. This is by far the most interesting portion of the book, and especially that part of the Chronicle which treats of events during the reigns of James and Charles the First; many of the notices under these periods appearing to be original.

Under 1612, is the following reference to the then current suspicions of poisoning—Vpon the 6th day of Nouember, Prince Henry died, hauing liu'd so long as he could, but yett, generally thought not so long as he might haue done.

From various passages it is apparent Willford was a Papist and a Royalist. The Gunpowder Treason he describes as 'that senceless and inhuman conspiracie,' which 'cast an aspersion vpon the Catholikes in generall, and raised a persecution.' He continues, "God direct all Christians from such horrid designes and preserue the worst of men from sudden and miserable ends, and all my enemies (if I haue any) from violent deaths!"

Notices of earthquakes and tempests abound; and also of 'Omens and Portents dire:' *e.g.*—In Februarie, 1644, there appeared in the north part of the Horizon, a fiery impression, like a stand of Pikes, these after half an houres space vanish'd, and then as many more did rise in the West. Vpon the second of March, the Scots came ouer the River Tyne, at which time there appeared a Meteor ouer the Citty of Yorke, representing the forme of a St. Andrew's crosse. Vpon the second daye of July was the battle of Marston-Moore neere Yorke, etc.

The 'Regall Table' terminates with this observation—January 30, 1649, was the period to our Monarchs, and the originall of our State, so now I must not here insert Charles the Second, by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, etc.

The Micro-Chronicon is continued through most part

of 1651. Seuerall apparitions in the aire there were this spring, in some part of Staffordshire; and in Shropshire two armies in the clouds were seen in battalio, and seemed to encounter one another. Vpon the 15 daye of May, there was another Earthquake felt in Leicestershire. The last entry is on Nov. 18, 1651, and at the end, is an ornamental piece of scroll work, bearing the motto—FINIS CORONAT OPUS, and the initials T. W.

I cannot find the name of the writer mentioned in any work of reference, to which I have access here, and shall feel grateful for any particulars respecting this Thomas Willford, and for information whether the manuscript in my possession has ever been printed?

Leicester, Dec. 10. WILLIAM KELLY.

LEGEND OF THE FORGET ME NOT.

In Current Notes for April, page 40, is an inquiry respecting the Legend of the Forget me not, and though the enclosed, copied from a periodical published many years since, is a different version from that noticed in the inquiry, it is sent on the chance that it may be deemed interesting to many of your readers, the work in which it was first printed, being now difficult of obtainment. E. A. BENTHAM.

LA FLEUR DE SOUVENANCE.

Farewell! my true and loyal Knight! On yonder battle field,
Many a pearl and gem of price will gleam on helm and shield:
But bear thou on thy silver crest this pure and simple wreath,
A token of thy Ladye's love—unchanging to the death.

They seem, I know, these fragrant flow'rs, those fairy stars of blue,
As maiden's eyes had smiled on them, and giv'n them that bright hue;
As only fitting but to bind a Lady's hair or lute,
And not with war, or warrior's crest in armed field to suit.

But there's a charm in ev'ry leaf, a deep and mystic spell;
Then take the wreath, my loyal Knight, Our Lady shield thee well;
And, though still prouder favors deck the gallant knights of France,
Oh, be the first in ev'ry field, LA FLEUR DE SOUVENANCE!

How bland, how still, this summer eve, sure never gentler hour.
For lay of love, or sigh of lute, to breathe in lady's bow'r;
Then listen, with a Lover's faith, all thoughts of war forgot,
To the legend of my token flow'r, the charm'd FORGET ME NOT.

Young Albert led his Ida forth, when the departing sun
Still linger'd in the golden West, and shone like treasures won
From some far land of old romance; some Genie's diamond throne,
A wreck of bright enchanted gems, in triumph overthrown.

Love, look to those radiant clouds, so like to fairy bow'rs:
How proudly o'er a sea of gold are raised their ruby tow'rs;
And now, as if by magic spell, a bright pavilion seems,
With its folds of sapphire light, where the parting sunray gleams.

To that bright Heaven with smiles she look'd; one gleam of her blue eyes,
And Albert's heart forgot the clouds, and all their radiant dyes,
All, all, but that young smiling one, whose beauty well might seem
A fairy form of loveliness imagined in a dream.

She took a chaplet from her brow, which gleaming soft and fair,
Like orient veil of amber light stream'd down her silken hair,
Shedding fragrance and emitting brightness from its glitt'ring rings.
As if halo'd by Love's breath, and the glancing of his wings.

"These maiden roses, Love, appear like pearls kissed by the sun
With last rich gleam of crimson ere his western throne be won;
But should there not be some bright flow'r to deck our bridal wreath,
Whose hue might speak of constancy, unchanging to the death?"

"My Ida! from a thousand wreaths, thy own sweet fancy chose
For pure unfading loveliness, this garland of the Rose:
And what can speak of truer faith, my own beloved one,
Than the flow'r whose fragrance lasts even when its life is gone?"

"Look to yon lone enchanted isle which 'mid the silv'ry foam
Of the blue water seems to float, the wild swan's elfin home;
A very cloud of azure flow'rs in rich profusion bloom;
Winds of the lake! your passing sighs breathe of their rich perfume.

In nameless beauty all unmasked, in solitude they smile,
As if they bloomed but for the stars, or birds of that lone isle:
For never yet hath mortal foot touch'd that enchanted shore,
Long hallowed by wildly imagined tales of gore.

Full well I love those distant flow'rs, whose pure and tender blue
Seem fitting emblems of a faith, unchanging as their hue;
And wouldst thou venture for my love as thou wouldst for renown,
Then win for me those azure flow'rs, to deck my bridal crown."

One parting kiss of his fair bride, and swiftly far away.
Like the wild swan whose home he sought, young Albert met the spray
Of rising waves, which foamed in wrath, as if some spirit's hand
Awoke the genii of the lake, to guard their mystic land.

The flow'rs were won, but devious his course lay back again;
To stem the waters in their tow'ring rage he strove in vain:
Fondly he glanced to the yet distant shore, where in despair
His betrothed stood with extended arms, mid shrieks and pray'r.

Darker and darker gather'd on the tempest in its wrath,
Th' eddying waters with vengeful ire beset the fatal path.
With the wild energy of death he well nigh reach'd the spot,
The azure flowers fell at her feet—IDA, FORGET ME NOT!
The words yet borne upon his lips, the prize seem'd almost won—
When mid the rush of angry waves he sank—for ever gone!

* * * *

Within a proud cathedral aisle was raised a costly tomb,
Whose pure marble shone like ethereal light amid the gloom;
No other trace it bore, to speak of lineage or of lot
But IDA'S name, with star-like flow'r ensculp'd FORGET ME NOT.

There Ida slept, the desolate, the last of all her name;
Parted from him who perished for her love, mid dawn of fame;
But when shall their fond legend die? or when shall be forgot
The flow'r that won its name in death, Love's theme—FORGET ME NOT?

ERASURES IN MANUSCRIPTS.

In several early manuscripts, I have noticed particular words have had a line drawn through them; sometimes a black line with a second or red line, as if erased, but which words constantly are a portion of the phraseology or sense of the narration or fact stated by the writer. For what purpose was this done?

Canterbury, Dec. 5, JUVENIS.

The words so lined through are not erasures, though that is the modern mode of erasing words or phrases which are objectionable. The earlier scribes by these lines implied that a particular emphasis should rest on these words, and that the reader should observe their import in particular, as we now underline them in writing, or print them in an italic type.

TRANSLATIONS OF BISHOPS.—When did the practice commence? or is there any record of the first person who was thus preferred or translated to a see, other than the one to which he was first appointed?

Carlisle, Dec. 8. F. M.

In Atkins' History of Gloucester, it is said, Gilbert Foliot, Abbot of that Monastery in 1139, was consecrated bishop of Hereford, Sept. 5, 1148, and translated to the see of London, in 1163, being the first instance of the translation of a bishop in England. The assertion is very erroneous, as prior to that date. Gerard, bishop of Hereford, circa 1095, was translated to York, in 1100. Still earlier. Herman, bishop of Winton, in 1046, was translated as bishop of Shireburn, in 1050. He removed the latter see to Salisbury, and was deceased in 1078, or before. There may possibly have been even earlier translations among the Anglo-Saxon bishops.

ST. BERNARD'S SAUCE.—Reading recently of some viands served up with St. Bernard's sauce, the meaning appeared to me to be obscure. I have looked into Halliwell's Dictionary and other authorities, but fail to find any solution of this delicacy, if such it be. Can any reader of Current Notes render any elucidation of this phrase?

Liverpool, Dec. 4. S. T.

St. Bernard's sauce is an ironical term for hunger.

PICTORIAL NIMBUS, OR GLORY.

I am sorry to observe that Mrs. Jameson's beautiful work, the 'Legends of the Madonna,' does not as stated in a note appended to my inquiry in your October number, furnish any exact information on the subject referred to. Whether Didron's Christian Iconography is more to the purpose I am not able to judge, as the work is not in my possession. In Mrs. Jameson's volume some of the few examples from Dutch artists represent the Nimbus in the form of rays proceeding from the head of the Virgin and the Child; and I have an old picture on which are the painter's initials I. A. V.; where both of these figures are represented with this head of glory—the latter with the rays very marked and very striking. The head of the Virgin has a thin circle of light, and a small point or two of condensed rays issuing beneath from the back part of the corner of the head. The subject is the Adoration of the Shepherds, one of whom presents a lamb. The infant Child is lying on a white cloth, and the Virgin Mother in a kneeling posture, is looking upon him, with her hands closed in the attitude of prayer. The artist, I think, must have been Flemish or Dutch, and probably the Nimbus referred to, may be characteristic of the painter. Query whom?

Your correspondent F. R. N. H. in his interesting communication seems to corroborate my views, that the rayed or flame like Nimbus is a characteristic of Dutch Art.

Dec. 15. E. B.

Our correspondent E. B. has only to refer to Didron, a volume which the publishers of Current Notes could readily supply; to correct his erroneous supposition that the luminous fluid or flame-like Nimbus was a characteristic of the Dutch School. It is found in Hindoo representations executed in far distant ages, and Didron adverts to the adoption of certain anachronisms and erroneous applications by artists of more recent times, while his historical inquiries are supported by unquestionable objects of Archæology. The subject of the glory or Nimbus occupies in Didron, pp. 129-200; and his Christian Iconography is one of those works of authentic information that should find shelf room in every library in the world, either public or private.

M. Christ in 1750, noticed the Monogram I. A. V., but most erroneously ascribes it to Josse Ammon of Zurich. Brulliot, whose Dictionnaire des Monogrammes professes to embody all previously published articles in that subject, refers, Vol. II. p. 169, to Christ, simply to record the misappropriation by that writer. The monogram, however, remains unapplied.

WILLIS'S

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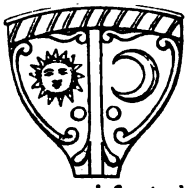
WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXIII.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [JANUARY, 1857.

NAVAL TROPHY AT DEAL.

On the esplanade at Deal, at the southern extremity, stands a now much dilapidated old house, built apparently some two or three hundred years since, and in the front, abutting on the end of the promenade, is seen imbedded in the wall, what appears to be an early heraldic shield of arms, impaled, with its bearings right and left; but on closer inspection it is evidently the stern of some old decorated boat, of which a lady having made a correct sketch, I send you a fac-simile.



The field or ground is painted red, embossed with black mouldings, and bearing on the dexter side a gilded sun enrayed, and rather below it, what may be supposed to be the planet Mars. On the sinister side, is the Crescent, or half moon accompanied by the planet which one may infer to be Venus. These ornaments stand boldly forth in burnished gold. In the centre, in pale, is evidently the raised part to which the rudder was formerly attached. None of the old pilots or boatmen appear to know anything respecting this relic, beyond what has been traditionally handed down to them, namely that the original proprietor of the premises was a seafaring man, who had been much in foreign parts, and having made capture of a Dutch ship, built the house on this spot, close to high water mark of the sea, and placed the decoration in the wall, as a record of the event, and as an heir-loom to his family.

Hasted mentions the unsuccessful attempt in 1648, of Prince Charles subsequently Charles the Second, to land here from a fleet, and it is not impossible, this might be the stern of one of the boats belonging to one of the ships.

Harbledown, Jan. 1. M. D.

Qu. More probably the stern of some French war ship's boat, captured on some memorable occasion in conflict with the English and Dutch? possibly La Hogue, in May, 1692? Ed.

COSTUME OF THE CLANS OF SCOTLAND.

Mr. R. R. Mc Ian, A.R.A. Edinb., after a long and severe illness, died Dec. 13th last. His interesting national work, the Costume of the Clans, the whole being admirably delineated in the colours peculiar to each, with historical descriptions, having become the property of Messrs. Willis and Sotheran, they have commenced a re-issue of the work, in parts, as conducted by Mr. Mc Ian, but have reduced the price to one-third of the original publication price.

ORIGIN OF ORATORIOS.

Oratorios divided into scenes, and usually in three acts or parts, in imitation of theatrical representations, but always on sacred subjects derived from scripture or church history, and set to grave and solemn music in order to be vocally and instrumentally performed in a church or elsewhere, during Lent, seem never before the seventeenth century to have been entirely sung, but chiefly declaimed with incidental airs and chorusses. They are not to be confounded with the early Miracle-plays, the Mysteries, or similar Interludes which even in England may possibly date from before the Norman Conquest. None of the Mysteries are totally without music, as there are chorusses and laudi, or hymns, which in all of them were sung, and in others accompanied by performances on instruments between the acts. Crescembini states that in a rappresentatione sacra teatrale written by Damiani, and printed at Siena, 1519, there was at the beginning of every act an octave stanza, which was to be sung to the sound of the lyra viol, by a personage called Orpheus, who was solely retained for that purpose; at other times a madrigal was sung between the acts, after the manner of a chorus.

All Italian writers on the subject agree that these sacred musical dramas had their beginning in the time of San Filippo Neri, who is numbered by Quadrio among Italian improvisatori; and with whom, about 1558, originated the congregation of the Priests of the Oratory at Rome. Oratorii, Ital., Oratoires, Fr., Anglice Chapels, imply the spaces between the arches of Romish churches, where there is an altar, and are so designated. By degrees this order spread itself all over Italy, and it appears these fathers in whatever city of Italy, they had an establishment, entertained their congregations with good music. During the service and after the sermon, it was usual for them, among other pious exercises, in order to allure youth to church, and keep them from secular amusements, to have hymns, psalms and other spiritual laudi or songs, sung either in chorus, or by a single favourite voice, divided into two parts, the one performed before the sermon, and the other after it.

The first collection of the words of Hymns and Psalms sung in the chapel of San Filippo Neri was published in Rome in 1585, entitled Laudi Spirituali, stampate ad istanza de R. R. P. P. della Congregatione dell' Oratorio. The second in 1603, Laudi Spirituali diverse solite cantarsi dopo Sermoni da' P. P. della Congreg. dell'Oratorio. Among these were dialogues in a dramatic form.

Simple as the manner would seem, in which this practice of devotion was begun with only spiritual can-

tatos, or songs, on moral subjects, they in order to render the service still more attractive, instituted Oratorios on some sacred story or event from the scripture, written in verse, and set by the best poets or musicians of the time. These being composed in dialogue, and rendered imposing to the congregations, such interest was excited by the performance of the first part, there was no fear that any of the hearers would retire during the sermon, or till they had heard the second. Among the subjects selected for the purposes of representation were the Good Samaritan, Job and his friends, the Prodigal Son, Tobit with the Angel, his father and his wife; these with others, by the excellence of the composition, the band of instrumental performers and the general superiority of the performance brought the Oratory into such repute that the congregations greatly increased in numbers, and hence this species of sacred musical drama wherever performed became known by the generally accepted appellation of Oratorio.* Venuti, Roma Moderna, 1766, p. 207, intimates—in the church of San Girolamo della Carita, in that city, Oratorios were still constantly performed on Sundays and Festivals from All Saints' Day till Palm Sunday; and also in the church of La Vallicella, or the Chiesa Nuova, where there were similar performances from November the first till Easter.

These spiritual spectacles had their beginning in these two churches, but the practice has been extended to so many of the other churches in Rome, that there is not a day in the year, during which some one or more of these representations may not be heard; and as lists of Oratorios and other Funzioni to be performed in the course of the year, in the several churches are published, similarly to our lists of Lent preachers, considerable emulation arises among the directors and performers, and a concurrent solicitude of gratification on the part of the persons constituting the several congregations.

PRUSSIA AND NEUFCHATEL.

The father of the present King of Prussia having obtained from Napoleon permission to deprive the King of England of the Electorate of Hanover, concluded at Vienna, on Dec. 15, 1805, a provisionary Convention, whereby Prussia surrendered to France the territories of Anspach, Bareuth, Cleves, and Neufchatel.

* Doni in his Trattato della Musica Scenica, speaking of Oratorios, observes that by a spiritual representation, he did not mean the gross, vulgar and legendary kind of drama used by the nuns and monks in convents, which were unworthy of the name of poetry, but such elegant and well constructed poetical fables as that of S. Alexis, by the ingenious Giulio Rospigliosi, many times represented, and always with applause. The Oratorio of S. Alexis, which is omitted in the Drammaturgia, though printed in score, in folio, 1634; was set to music by Stefano Landi of the Papal chapel, and represented in the Barberini Palace, at Rome, on a stage and in action, with dances, machinery and every kind of splendid dramatic decoration, of which a glowing description is given in the preface and a letter prefixed to the volume.

WALLINGTON'S JOURNAL.

In answer to the enquiry made in Notes and Queries, Vol. V. p. 489, I replied, stating that the Manuscript was in my possession; it was purchased by me of Mr. Andrews of Bristol, who obtained it on the dispersion of the library of the late Mr. Walter Wilson of Bath, in whose sale Catalogue it appears as 'A Bundel of Mercys, etc.' Whilst in Mr. Wilson's possession, he had it handsomely bound by Riviere, but from whom or whence he obtained the manuscript I am unable to state; if my copy is not the original, it is of contemporary date, and bears evident marks of having been written at different times, although the same hand may be traced throughout.

The manuscript embraces a later period than that stated in the last number of Current Notes, and contains curious and interesting matter relative to the Civil Wars with Wallington's reflections on the same; it is a small quarto, and arranged under various headings, of which 'a Bundel of Mercys' is one.

4, St. John's Terrace, Oxford. JOHN GODWIN.

The enquiry in Notes and Queries refers to the Manuscript purchased at the Gulston sale in 1784, by George Baker, of St. Paul's Churchyard, for 2*l.* 11*s.* The volume, with the Gulston crest on the binding, is now as stated in Current Notes, in the Corporation Library, Guildhall. Upcott became its possessor in 1822, and in the Gentleman's Magazine, Nov. 1824, pp. 387-388, he printed a long extract from it, in reference to the destructive fire on London Bridge, that began in the night of Feb. 13th, 1632-3, but scantily described by Stow's continuators.

Nehemiah Wallington, the tenth child of John and Elizabeth Wallington, was born on Saturday, May 12, 1598, at 5 a.m. Was by trade a turner, and sold bedsteads, chairs, etc., in Little Eastcheap, and by the autobiographically recorded particulars of himself and his family, appears to have been a great fool. The Gulston volume though entitled—A Record of the Mercies of God; or a Thankefull Remembrance, is dated December xxv, 1630, but contains transcripts of other memoranda and papers from 1619. Subsequently he writes —

The beginning of November, 1647, my sonne, John Horthon and I did begine to reade in this Booke euery morning by our selues alone, and by God's marcy We haue read ouer this Booke, January ye xxxi, 1647[-8.]

Another memorandum states —

March the third, 1653, I thought with Solomon to looke ouer all my works or bookes that my hands did write, and I first begine with this Booke this morning, the Lord sanctify it to me that I may see what Marcys he hath done for me of old, and giue him all the praise and glory of it.

Later still, when it would seem he had compleated his 60th year, at p. 515 is the following note.—

May xxi, 1658, I haue by God's marcy read ouer this my writting booke, which I haue read ouer many times, but now I obsearue more then in former time I did which I haue handed, and here followes some of that which I obsarue for my Soules good.

An Index to certain religious aspirations follows. Wallington was very illiterate, and sad blunders in orthography are found throughout; even the John Horthon, who it would seem was his son-in-law, appears, September ix, 1658, to be really Jonathan Houghton.

EARLY SCOTISH MERCHANTS' MARKS.

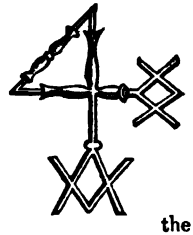
Many years have passed since I collected Merchants' Marks from tomb-stones, and Masons' marks from old ecclesiastical and baronial buildings, and must confess I then attached very little value to either, except as mere curiosities. Many of these which I had collected, through the little regard paid to them, have in consequence been lost, and this I the more regret, since the frequent notices in Current Notes of Early Merchants' Marks in England have appeared, I am led to believe there may be more in them than I at first imagined. Should these Merchants' Marks now selected from the remains of my gatherings in Scotland, with the accompanying memoranda, be worthy a place in Current Notes, you are most welcome to them.

These marks are evidently of the same class as those which have hitherto appeared in Current Notes; not any one of them being in themselves quite the same in design. They are all from Free stone monuments, brasses being extremely rare in Scotland. The earliest here described is from Stirling, and with the exception of two others from the old Grey Friars' burial ground at Perth, all the rest are from the old burying ground at Dundee. The delineation of the whole is not only broad and vigorous, containing certain traces of individual character and a degree of mathematical exactness in their various parts, but also present an ingenuity in design, and delicacy in execution, which cannot be too much admired.

Waving the old idea that the common sign 4 was symbolical of mercantile trading to the four quarters of the globe, in which after all there may be some truth? I may observe that the remark of your Correspondent, C. N. p. 48, of Merchants not being permitted to assume Heraldic insignia is not borne out by those in Scotland, at least so far as I have yet seen, there being scarcely a tomb-stone from which the marks in this communication have been taken, but had also the family arms of the persons thereon commemorated. I deduce an instance in that of Thomas Simson, 1579. These family arms have constantly precedence of the marks, being either at the top, in the centre, or on the left side of the stone.*

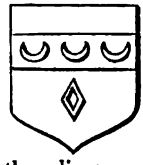
It is almost superfluous to observe that those curious marks are either monogrammatic, or display some vagary in their designs, and I cannot help thinking that they originated from those of the more ancient disciples of Hiram—an idea which is supported by the great similarity of the Marks of Merchants, to those of Masons, the latter having from remote antiquity retained certain devised private marks upon their tools, which they also cut and left upon the blocks of stone which they respectively dressed or finished, and in various official capacities attached to their signatures.

The Archæologia, vol. XXIV. contains an excellent paper on the Use of Mason-Marks in Scotland, by the late eminent Scotish antiquary, Patrick Chalmers, Esq. of Aldbar. Two plates of Mason-Marks accompany his observations—one of these shows the marks upon some old ecclesiastical and baronial buildings in Angusshire; and the other, is a selection of private marks from the cash-book of the St. Ninian's Lodge of Freemasons in Brechin, extending from 1714 to 1847. These were mostly taken from my collection of Mason-Marks, since greatly increased; and a glance at these plates will at once evince the close resemblance of some of the marks of the early Scotish Merchants here engraved, to those of the practical Freemasons which are in the Archæologia but partially represented.



This pleasingly designed monogram is from a stone in the old burial ground of Stirling, and in which there are others very similar. The date 1523, is all that remains, the inscription has been effaced.

On a stone in the old burial ground or Houff of Dundee, to the memory of a burgess, named Thomas Simson, 1579, is the family coat, and his mark, in which quaint design his initials may be traced.



Upon the same stone are these lines: —

Man tak hed to me, hov thov sal be,
Qvhan thov art dead;
Drye as a trie, vermes sal eat ye,
Thy great bovti sal be lik lead.
Ye time hath bene, in my zovt grene,
That I ves clene of bodie as ye ar;
Bvt for my eyen, nov tvo holes bene,
Of me is sene, bvt benes bare.

The first of these, is on a stone to John Garden, a burgess, 1581; the second from a stone bearing the

* The instances, kindly communicated by our correspondent, refer to the sixteenth century, at which time wealth and the position of gentility doubtless obtained for many persons grants of arms from the Heralds, to which their families had not the slightest claim. In the earlier ages merchants had their marks, and no arms, an instance presents itself, in a seal now before the writer, the legend being SIGILLV' ROBERTI DE GLEN; he was burgess of the city of St. Andrews, 1337, and his mark with the R and G entwined, is within an architecturally devised compartment, the design probably derived from the shrines of that day. Ed.

name of Robert Peblis, 1582; and the third, the name illegible, but bearing the initials, P. A. E. S. 1598.

Built into the west wall of the burial ground, and occupying the space of three recesses, is a stone having both these monograms;

referring to James Mudie, a baillie of Dundee. Here also as a decoration were formerly the old family arms. The inscription is given in Menteith's Theater of Mortality, but all that now remains are the words—In Monvmentvm Sepvltvræ Familia Mvdeorvm erexit Jacobvs Mvdevs, Anno 1602.

is the recorded mark of Thomas Bover, skinner and merchant burgess. Upon a stone raised by William Chaplane in memory of his wife Agnes Dorward, who died in 1603. The arms of the Chaplane and Dorward families are on this stone, at the foot of which is the quaint memento—

VILIAME CHEPLANE VOS YE DOEIR OF YIS.

The first of these is the monogram of Robert Kandov, also a burgess of Dundee. The two next, belong to two persons surnamed Goldman; the father 1607, and the son, 1632. The Goldman family were in their day the 'Merchant Princes' of Dundee, and owners of large possessions in landed property, but their race and name have been long since extinct. These marks have a peculiar interest, as shewing that different members of one family adopted different devices.

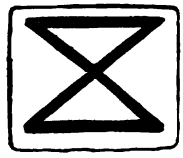
is upon a stone bearing the name of Robert Fairvedder, litster, or wool dyer, who died in 1609. The next, bearing the oddly conjoined initials D. Z., the lower termination of the latter by a freak of the mason being lapped over to form the first, pertains to David Zemane or Yeaman, 1610; whose descendants were opulent and long

after exercised much influence in the affairs of Dundee. Upon Zeaman's stone is the following couplet, not uncommonin Du ndee.

TO HONOR YE SEPVLTOR VE MAY BE BALD:
VE LERNE OF ABRAHAM OVR FATHER AVLD.

on a stone dated 1617, but all else is effaced. The R. M. on the following is the monogram of Robert Mureson, 1637. The stone was placed there by his widow Helen Collie, and a slab built into a wall at the head of the stone bears an inscription—

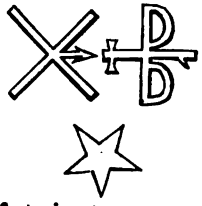
TO YE FAMILIE OF YE MVRESONS.



The dates of these three are doubtful, but appear to be of the early part of the seventeenth century. The first is on a stone to the memory of a David Blair, all else is effaced. The second is from a monument to one John Zoung now Young, who possibly was related to Sir Peter Young, co-tutor with Buchanan, to King James the Sixth; Sir Peter's father having been a burgess of Dundee, where he died in 1583. The name and date on the stone bearing the third mark are wholly illegible.

The monogram of Alexander Copping; when placed here is not very clear, the date being effaced and wholly illegible. The initial letter C. is not as might be inferred cut to the same breadth and upon the same level as the shaft upon which it is placed, but is proportionately narrow and inserted into the centre of the shaft by means of a slit in the centre, the upper bend of the circle of the C being slipped under the left half of the shaft, and the under circle below the right half. The undulations of that part of the shaft, consequent upon this arrangement are beautifully developed on the stone, a mural tablet, in the vicinity of Nos. 7 and 8. With the name Alexander Copping, are also the initials I. P. Copping in his day was a merchant and burgess of some note.

These initials refer to James Pierson, a burgess and seaman, who died in 1660; but no particulars either in explanation of the monogram or of the initials P. K. are obtainable.



The stone upon which this device is found is in the old Grey Friars' burial ground at Perth, bearing this inscription—Heir lyis ane Honorabil Woman Helena Colt spouse to M . . . . Andersone quha dyit 8 Iunii, 1618.

In conclusion I may observe that the merchants in large manufacturing towns were not the only parties in Scotland who used these marks. I have seen them in many country churchyards and villages, mostly similar in design to this, which is quite a common device, and is from a stone in memory of Alexander Buchan, a burgess of Perth, who died in 1758. In the village of Dunblane, in Perthshire, many of the old houses have these marks over the door, with the initials of the owner of the house and those of his wife, with sometimes the words:

WE LOVE EQUITY.

Painted over the door of an old shop at Brechin, the common kind of mark 4 is seen issuing from the monogram VA, between the Christian and surname of the merchant.

Possibly the device as shown from the stone dated 1617, had its origin in the use of the weigh-beam.

Brechin, Jan. 2. A. J.

GREAT FIRE IN LOWER THAMES STREET.

Early in the last century there were but few newspapers printed, and their place was frequently supplied by what were then designated 'News Letters,' of one sheet folio; hence also much of the correspondence between private individuals, contained more generally particulars of passing events than are now detailed in letters of our time. In one from a William Pearse in the metropolis, to his sister Mrs. Elizabeth Pearse at Ashburton, in Devonshire, are the following particulars of a disastrous fire in Lower Thames Street, of which a contemporary printed account may almost be looked for in vain.

London, Jan. 20, 1714-15.

This day sennight att evening, broke out a dreadfull Fire near the Custome house, by the accidental blowing up of a house where was great quantity of gun-powder, and the fire burned exceeding fierce till near noon next day, notwithstanding all methods used to extinguish it both by engines and blowing up of houses to prevent its spreading. About one hundred stately brick houses are now only heaps of rubbish, and multitudes of Warehouses and others of merchants goods are consumed to the value of many hundred thousand pounds, and which is worse many scores of men, women, and children, have lost their lives. Abundance that I know, their houses are in ashes; the Custom House escaped, notwithstanding the fire reached to the very walls of it, and did some damage although it was a very dark night, yet the air seemed on fire, so that a pin might have been taken up many miles from hence.

ARMOURERS' ARMORIAL INSIGNIA.

The original seal of the Company of Armourers, is of the time of King Henry the Sixth. The matrix of silver is still in the possession of the Company, but has long since ceased to be used. In the field, St. George the Patron Saint of the Armourers, is represented piercing the Dragon with his spear. Two helmets respecting each other are placed, one on either side of the saint, and beneath each helmet, is a shield, the dexter charged with two swords in saltire; the sinister with a plain cross. The legend—SIGILLV' COMVNE ARTIS ARMVRARIO' CIVITATIS LONDONEA'.

In the Court Minute Book of the Company of Armourers, dated October 7, 1556, is an entry entitled—for the renewing of a letter patent of the Armes of our Companye, which notices the fact that the Master and one of the Wardens had been with the Chief King of Arms, and appointed him to make new Arms and Crest 'according unto our Arte and Mysterie,' for the sum of five pounds.

The grant has never been printed, and is here submitted, from the original record.

To all Nobles and Gentills these presente Letters reding, hering, or seyng, THOMAS HAWLEY alias Clarencieulx, principall herauld and kyng of Armes of the Sowthe, Easte and Weste partes of this realme of Englande, from the Ryver of Trente sowthwarde, sendeth dew and humble commendacion and gretyng.

Equite willeth and Reason ordeyneth that men vertuous and of Noble courage be by theire Merytes and good Reuoronce had in perpetuall memorye, And forasmuch as I the saide Clarencieulx, am surely enformed and understande for certeyne, that euery crafte of corporacion within this moste noble Citye of London doo compasse studye and deuyse with all theire dilligence, and namely such persons as haue in them a gentle and noble harte ar as compelled thereunto by very course of nature to seke the moste conuenient and laudable wayes to them possible to exalte and preferre theire saide Crafte, Mystereye, and Occupacion to thentent that euerye person entryng or commyng into theire saide Mysterie and Occupacion through theire vertuous and commendable disposition shulde effectually enforce and geue themselves towardes the maintenaunce, supportacion and long contynuance of the same to the laude and prayse of Allmightie God, and to the honor of the Kynge and Quenes Majesties, ouor Soueyrnes, and of this moste noble Citye of London.

Therefore in following the saide laudable wayes there hath ben with me the forsaide Clarencieulx, certeyne of the worshipfull companye the Maister and Wardeyns of the Fraternitye or Guylde of St. George, of the men of the Mystery of Armerors, of the Citye of London, that is to wete, WILLIAM GONN, at this presente tyme beyng Maister; and ROGER TYNDALL and THOMAS BRUCE, Wardeyns of the same, instantly Requyrng me for that there hath ben of long tyme belongyng to theire saide Fraternitie and Mystery the token of honor, that is to saye Armes.

Neuertheles, they being uncerteine under what sorte and maner theire predecessors bare the same, with the dew difference, haue desyered me the saide Clarencieulx to ordeyn, assign and set furth theire Armes and Creste with a dew difference lawefully to be borne.

I therefore consideryng theire Request to be bothe juste

and resonable, and also the more worthier by reason of the Liberties and Aunciennitie of theire Corporacion graunted unto them by the most famous prynce Kyng Henry the Syxte of famous memorye by thauctoritie and power annexed attributed geuen and graunted to me and to my office of Clarencieulx Kyng of Armes, by expresse wordes under the moet noble grete Seale, haue ratified, confirmed, assigned and set furthe to the hole bodye of the Fraternitie, Mysterie and Corporacion, the Armes and Creste with the dew difference in maner as hereafter foloweth, that is saye—Siluer, on a chevron sable, a attoney gauntelet betwene fower swordes in sawltere siluer, porfled, pomeled and hilted gold, on a chef sable in a plate betwene two helmetts siluer, garnyshed golde, a playne crosse gules. Upon the healme, on a Torse siluer and sable, a demy Man of Armes armed siluer, open faced porfled golde, holdyng in his hande a Mace of Warre, mantelled geules, dobled siluer, as more plainly apereth depicted in this margente.

To haue and to holde to all the hole bodye of the saide Fraternitie, Mysterie and Corporacion, and to theire successors in the same, and they it to use and enioye for euermore.

In wittnes wherof I the saide Clarencieulx haue signed these presentes with my hande, and sete thereunto the Seale of my Armes, with the Seale of my Office of Clarencieulx Kyng of Armes.

Geuen and graunted at London the xvth daye of October, in the thirde and fowrthe yeres of the reignes of our Souereynes Phillip and Marye, by the grace of God, Kyng and Quene of Englande, Spayne, Fraunce, both Sicilles, Jerusalem and Irelande, defendors of the faithe; archedukes of Austria, Dukes of Bourgundie, Myllayn, and Brabant, Counties of Hauspurg, Flandres and Tyroll.

PAR MOY CLARCOEULX ROY D'ARMES. 1556.

Hawley's grant or confirmation of these arms to the Company of Armourers, has a richly floriated border on the top and both sides; in the centre (at the top) is a Tudor rose surmounted by a crown *or*, between two fleur-de-lis *or*.

The initial letter is richly illuminated, having within it Clarencieux in his tabard, etc. The armorial bearings of the Company are emblazoned on the dexter side.

To the grant are appended two seals, one bearing a plain shield charged with the arms of Thomas Hawley, a saltire engrailed. The other, the official seal of Hawley as Clarencieux king of Arms, with the legend—S. OFFICII CLARENCIAVX R. ARMORVM PT. AVSTRAL. Arms; St. George's cross, in dexter corner a fleur-de-lis; and on a chief, a lion passant gardant.

Subsequently, on the occasion of the uniting of the Company of Armourers, with the Braziers, the Master and Wardens again conferred with the Heralds' College, as appears from the following minute in their records:

Feb. 28, 1708-9. The Master and Wardens are desired to treat and agree with the King at Arms for a new Coat of Arms for the Braziers upon their being united to this Company of Armourers, and that a Common Seal be made thereupon at as reasonable a price as they can procure the same.

Another minute of later date states the cost of the seal to have been about Twenty pounds.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. HOWARD.

ORIGINAL COMPILER OF ENGLISH BARONETAGE.

In Moule's Bibliotheca Heraldica, are some passing notices of the editions of the Genealogical and Historical Accounts of the English Baronetage, 1727 and 1741, both being ascribed in the main to the publisher, Thomas Wotton, at the Three Daggers and Queen's Head, against St. Dunstan's Church in Fleet Street; but the work appears to have been commenced many years prior, by the Rev. William Holman, of Halstead, in Essex, as the following letter will determine:—

Honored Sir,—As there is now preparing for the Press a Genealogical History of the Baronets of England, I doubt not but as you have the Honour to be of the Order, so you will take care to have the Memoirs of your Family inserted. I think that all persons who have any Manuscripts by them relating thereunto ought to encourage so laudable a Designe.

This is my case who am under a double obligation of promoting it, not only as a lover of Antiquities, but as having married a gentlewoman of your family. I have lived for several years at Halstead, in Essex, and have made it my business to collect whatever I could meet with of the Fitches family, and I think I may say, without vanity, that I know more of it than any gentleman in England, especially since it hath been fixed in Essex.

I should be very glad to know from what branch of the Fitches you are descended; I find the first of the family at Linsell in this county, and at Bumsted, Danbury, Bocking, Twinsted, and several other places, for about three hundred years past, and they had formerly two coats of arms with some little difference.

I should be very ambitious of surving you and illustrating your family; I hope you will excuse this interruption from, Sir, Your most humble servant,

December 11, 1711. WILLIAM HOLMAN.

I have some designe to publish the History of Hinckford Hundred, a worthy Gent. Mr. Morley of Halstead (my very good friend) will inform you farther.

Addressed—For Sir Comport Fitche, Bart., to be left for him at Madame Outram's, at her house in Old Palace Yard, att Westminster.

CREATION OF PEERS FOR LIFE.

A correspondent who refers to the pedigree of the family of Gardner, Lord Gardner, Brydges' Collins, 1812, vol. ix. pp. 381-384; repeats for solution in Current Notes, the query of G. H. W., in the Gentleman's Magazine, April, 1823, p. 290, why the Viscounty of Gardner has become extinct, though the late Viscount left legitimate male issue. Alan Hyde, second Baron Gardner, was gazetted Sept. 30, 1815, Viscount Gardner, and died Dec. 27, in that year. His son, Alan Legge, succeeded to the baronial honour only. Two reasons have been assigned as probable, viz., either that Lord Gardner died before the completion of the patent of the Viscounty, or else, that he was created Viscount *without any remainder;* the latter supposition seems warranted on reference to the gazette of 1815.

The recent discovery in Lincoln Cathedral library of a French Psalter printed in 1546, with the grand musical notes to the old Hundredth Psalm, has disposed of the long disputed question whether Purcell who died in 1695, or Handel who died in 1759, was the composer. The music in the old psalter being precisely as it is now sung is sufficient argument against the supposed claims of either of these distinguished masters, to one of whom the composition has long been attributed.

JACK AND THE BEAN-STALK.

Can you help me to information on the History of that notable tale of Jack and the Bean-stalk?

Hull, Dec. 27. HENRY S. BRIGHT.

Jack, commonly called the Giant-killer and Tom Thumb landed in England, from the very same keels and war ships which conveyed hither Hengist and Horsa, and Ebba the Saxon; but for further information respecting Jack, 'who after all was an unprincipled young dog,' our correspondent is referred to an admirable article on the Antiquities of Nursery Literature, in the Quarterly Review, May 1819.

DERIVATION OF THE TERM COWARD.

At a recent meeting of the British Archæological Association, Mr. Carrington communicated some remarks on the derivation of the word 'Coward,' and deduced it from an occupation in former days of much importance, namely, a Cowherd, one having charge of the cattle; as no report of the transactions of the Association, that I have seen, contains even a synopsis of Mr. Carrington's paper, I cannot of course say how far I might agree with that gentleman's philological deductions; but I am inclined to differ with Mr. Carrington on 'Cow-herd,' the derivation he has adopted. I would rather be of opinion that 'Coward,' is derived from *Cow-heart*, as a term of reproach for the absence of either moral or physical courage. Indeed, I once heard a gentleman of Cheshire, say that 'he was not Cow-hearted.'

Downpatrick. JAMES A. PILSON.

BARBERS AND SURGEONS BANQUETS.

The following brief notices may serve as mementoes of Civic Festivities, a century since, but their apparent simplicity would not now be deemed satisfactory to the members of the Company, who amid the blandishments of modern refinements, seem delighted to partake of dishes, the viands of which are disguised under foreign appellations of no meaning, and of sounds solely calculated to tickle the ear of the unwary. They are printed from the original bills.

The Dinner on the Lord Mayor's Day, Octob. 29, 1742, for the Worshipfull Company of Barbers and Surgeons.

For seventeen Dishes of Fowles, Oysters, Sauceages and Bacon	8	1	6
For three Large Sir Loynes of Beef	1	16	0
For eleven Tongues, eleven Udders	3	6	0
For eleven Cock Turkeys and Sauce	3	11	6
For eight Chines, Sauce and dressing	2	4	0
For twelve Geese and Sauce	2	8	0
For twelve Dishes of Mincepyes	3	0	0
For eleven Custards and Florindines	2	4	0
For three Dishes of Chickens, three each	0	15	0
For nine Dishes of Rabitts, two each	1	4	0
For nine Dishes of Chickens, two each	1	7	0
For twelve Large Pippin Tarts*.	2	8	0
For the Musicks Dinner	0	5	0
For Wood and Coales	0	12	0
	33	2	0

Recd. the Contents of this Bill
for James Horsley.

The Dinner for the Court of Assistance and there Ladys, att Barbers and Surgeons Hall, July 19th, 1744.

Eight Turbot, Soles, with Lobster and Shrimps.
Seven Dishes of Venison.
Three Hams.
Two Sr. Loynes of Beef.
Seven Dishes of Boyld fowles, three each.
Seven Marrow Puddings.

Ten Dishes of Ducks, two each.
Eight dishes of Turkey Pouts, two each.
Eight Dishes of Green Peas.
Seven Coldling Tarts, Cream^d.
The Musickes Dinner.
Wood and Coales.
Cooks and Laborers.

Agreed for Twenty Nine pounds.

Marrow-puddings, which have sent many a Citizen to his last home, seem here to be an advance of refinement upon the former bill of fare.

* Pippins were formerly in the City in high vogue. The Rev. A. B. Suter, in his recently printed interesting paper entitled, 'The Worthies of St. Dunstan's, Fleet Street,' discovered among other causes of popularity which attended the honest, gentle and courteous William Stampe, Clarke of that parish church, whose burial is noticed in the register, March 6, 1643-4; an item in his bill for wages and other dues, due to him at Midsummer, 1637 —

For two hundred and fifty Pippins for perambulation day 0 7 0

Which charge it appears the churchwardens did not object to pay.

Gay, too, in his Trivia, printed in 1716, pathetically deplores among the vicissitudes caused by the breaking up of the ice on the Frozen Thames, the fate of Doll the Pippin-woman, who passing from booth to booth, the ice broke while she was crying Pippins, and she slipped in; in the fall her head was struck off, and as it flew with velocity above the surface the quivering lips repeated in accents —

Soft as the breath of distant flutes;

the abbreviated pip, pip, pip, till lost in the distance, was hushed for ever her swan-song or dying note.

TOUCHING FOR THE KING'S EVIL.

When began the practice of touching for the King's Evil, and by whom was it discontinued?

Salisbury, Jan. 14. M. V.

Dr. Paris, in the Historical Introduction to his Pharmacologia, 1822, p. 27, states—Edward the Confessor was the first English King who touched for the Evil, and the foolish superstition has been wisely laid aside, ever since the accession of the House of Hanover. The deceptions generally practised on these occasions are also exposed by that late eminent physician.

SURNAMES ENDING IN 'WELL.'

The study of the derivation of names will admit of much interesting conjecture and research, notwithstanding Dean Swift has advanced some amusing speculations on this subject. For instance, he says, the king of Macedon being very partial to roasted eggs, his servants when they saw him returning homeward, called lustily to the cook to have—'all eggs under the grate,' thence his name of Alexander the Great; and that his horse Bucephalus was so named from the number of grooms who assiduously surrounded the animal, and thus obtained the appellation of 'busy fellows.'

In answer to Mr. Langmead's enquiries, Current Notes, p. 101, the instances there given prove that many names since the Conquest have become altered in their terminations from 'ville' to 'well.' In support of Verstegan's statement respecting some names ending in 'well,' having been assumed by our ancestors from their residing in the neighbourhood of a well, the following extract from Blomefield, will I think account for the origin of one of the names enumerated by your correpondent.

While noticing St. Anne's chapel, in the south aisle of the parish church of Fersfield, he observes—

The windows of the aisle, and in particular the east window of the chapel, were formerly beautifully adorned with paintings on glass, of the Twelve Apostles, the Blessed Virgin, and St. Anne her mother, to whom the chapel was dedicated. She had a famous image standing in it, and a large gild kept to her honour, to which most who died in this and the adjacent towns generally gave something, and often left money to find wax candle and lights to be continually burning before it. From this place processions were usually made to a well or spring at the foot of the hill, about sixty yards from the north gate of the church yard, which is still called Tann's Well, being a corruption of St. Anne's Well.*

Blomefield was rector of Fersfield, and in his account of that parish, enumerates some of the many changes it had undergone in name only.—I find, he observes, the name very differently written, as Ferswella, Fervessella, Ferefeud, Fairfeud, Fairvill, and Fersfell, all which seem to signify a Fair Fee, or Village.†

January 1. S. T. TAYLOR.

* Topographical History of Norfolk, *Fersfield*, 1739, Vol. I. p. 70. † Ibid, p. 49.

Stow in his Survey of London, notices among the monuments formerly in St. Botolph's Church, Billingsgate, one to William Rainwell, fishmonger, and John Rainwell his son, fishmonger, Mayor in 1426, and who on his decease in 1445, bequeathed large possessions to the Commonalty of London. The derivation of this name would seem to be sufficiently clear.

Howell at the close of his Familiar Letters, the whole of which are fictitious, having been fabricated by him, while confined in the Fleet prison for debt, has the following:—

gLorIa LaVs Deo sæCVLorVM In sæCVLa sVnto.

a Doxological Chronogram including the present year 1655, and hath numeral letters enough to extend to the year nineteen hundred and twenty-seven, if it please God the world should last so long.

KENTISH EPITAPHS.

In this County are the following Epitaphs, if sufficiently amusing perhaps you will insert them.

Rochester, Jan. 17. F. M. WEBB.

Epicedium on a Blacksmith, in Aylesbury churchyard.

RICHARD AUSTIN,
Died August, 1745, Aged 36 years.

My Sledge and Hammer lyes declind,
My Bellows too have lost their wind,
My Fire's extinct, my Forge decaid
And in the dust my Vice is laid.
My Coal is spent, my Iron's gone,
My Nails are drove, my Work is done.

In Frindsbury church yard, near Rochester, are the following lines on Geratt Pearson, who departed this life August 28, 1801. Also of Alexander Norwood, aged twenty-three years.

Tho' in the waters, our lives we left,
The Lord has spar'd our bodies to the dust,
Those two bright youth's was dutiful son's,
Alas! how soon their glass was run.

MODERN ANTIQUITIES.—Flint arrow heads when found are considered of very remote antiquity, but at a recent meeting of the society of Antiquaries, a letter was read from Mr. W. A. Franks, accompanying various flint arrow heads, the fabrications of a man in the East Riding of Yorkshire; who had also made combs, fishhooks, and other objects in flint, imposing them as the rude productions of days long since passed. J. A. P.

The Sixth volume of Current Notes, with Index, in extra cloth boards, uniform with the prior volumes, may now be had, price THREE SHILLINGS.

Subscribers are respectfully reminded that their subscriptions for the forthcoming twelve months, which are now due, can be forwarded in Postage Stamps.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXIV.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [FEBRUARY, 1857.

SCOTTISH PRESBYTERIES UNDER WILLIAM III.

On Nov. 13, 1690, a Commission was appointed by the General Assembly, for visiting the whole Presbyteries of the North side of the Tay, etc. In reference to that visitation the following hitherto unpublished letter from Major General Hugh Mackay, of Scourie, the well known Commander of the Forces in Scotland under King William III.; distinguished not only by his personal piety, but by his attachment to the Presbyterian faith; addressed to Ludovick Grant of that ilk, a member of the Scottish Privy Council, and one of the powerful and zealous supporters of the Presbyterian interest in the north, will doubtless be read with much interest for the developement it affords on the comparative strength of religious parties in Scotland at the period of the Revolution. It is dated at London, Dec. 4, 1690, and proceeds thus—

Continue in your zeal for the Government, and I exhort you to study moderation in your present commission, which will do the Presbyterian interest more good than men generally there are aware of. The King's intentions are certainly to maintain that government, as the fittest for that nation; but it is also his earnest desire that it may be made as supportable to those who seem to dissent from it, that even they may fall in liking with it, and so the Kingdom become one body, which surely is the likeliest way for the subsistence of that which is so newly established. Many are of opinion that you, Brody, Foulis, and Grange, being upon that northern commission, nothing is to be expected but severity; but I am sure that no man who will duly weigh all circumstances but will confess with me, that, humanly, the standing of that government doth consist in the making it supportable to the King and Kingdom. For, let men flatter themselves as they will, I tell you, who know Scotland, and where the strength and weakness of it doth lie, that, if I were as much an enemy to that interest as I am a friend, I would without difficulty engage to form in Scotland a more formidable party against it, even for their Majestys' Government, than can be formed for it. I therefore pray you gentlemen, take a friendly advertisement, and let your zeal be tempered with prudence, for no man in England or Scotland can judge of your circumstances better than myself.

The significance of this language will be best understood by comparing it with what is said on the subject by Mr. Macaulay in the thirteenth chapter of his History of England; and by Mr. Burton, in the fifth and sixth chapters of his History of Scotland. R.

Roman Catholics who refuse to believe in the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, are now, by Ultramontanists, considered and denounced as Protestants.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, DORCHESTER.

I observe announced in the newspapers the death of the talented water-colour artist, Mr. Frederick Nash; and in the Art Journal, for February, we are favoured with a very interesting biographical sketch of him. In 1802, Mr. Nash painted a view of St. Peter's Church, with the Market House, etc., in Dorchester, from which an engraving was made by Birrell, and published by Mr. Frampton, then a bookseller in this town. The annexed woodcut is a reduced copy of the print, a facsimile of the painting.

To Topographers it is particularly valu able from the circumstance of the Market House having been thrown down, the church altered, and the houses seen in the centre having all been demolished, thus leaving a wide open space, and much improving and enlarging the Town.

Mr. Nash commenced another painting of a view embracing the church of the Holy Trinity, etc., but in consequence, I imagine, of the prints of the first not selling well, the painting was never finished. Fortunately, I possess both paintings, the plate of the first has been destroyed, and the prints are in consequence very scarce.

Dorchester, Feb. 2. JOHN GARLAND, F.L.S.

A correspondent observes the Blacksmith's epitaph, in Current Notes, p. 8, is incomplete, and consists of eight lines, the two last being—

My fire-dried corps lies here at rest,
My soul, like smoke, soars to be blest.

ROY'S WIFE OF ALDIVALLOCH.

Many of our most popular ballads have originated in the traditionary relation of some incident, the particulars of which have become mystified or forgotten, or have been based on rude fragmentary lyrics which have been transmitted by successive generations eternising some cherished memorial of events in local history, or celebrating some well known hill, or dale, or stream. Among these, none are better known than the song of 'Roy's Wife of Aldivalloch;' but the allusion to persons was without elucidation, and the name of the writer was become a matter of question. Allan Cunningham observes—'Cromek, an anxious inquirer into all matters illustrative of northern song, ascribes Roy's Wife of Aldivalloch, to Mrs. Murray, of Bath; while George Thomson, and all other editors of Scottish song, impute it to Mrs. Grant, of Carron. I am not aware that the authorship has been settled.' The doubt rested with Cunningham, who appears to have not been aware that the writer married her cousin—Grant, of Carron, near Elchies; and upon his decease, married secondly Dr. Murray, a physician resident at Bath. Whether there was some tradition in Aberlour, her native place, as to the courtship and inconstancy of the bride, or that Mrs. Grant may have taken up the burden of some former, but now forgotten ballad, is not known. Recently, on examining the parish register of Cabrach, Banffshire, for some other affair, the circumstances of the marriage of the veritable Roy of Aldivalloch and his once fickle wife, so famous in Scottish song, was discovered. They had been previously 'contracted' on January 28, 1727; but on February 21, following, John Roy, lawful son of Thomas Roy, in Aldivalloch, was married to Isabel, daughter of Alister Stewart, sometime resident in Cabrach. The braes of Balloch are in the neighbourhood of Aldivalloch, and possibly all the circumstances were long the current gossip of the district, as Mrs. Grant was not born till 1745, and she died in 1814.

ENGLISH EPISCOPAL CHAPEL, MONTROSE.

St. Peter's English Episcopal Chapel, Montrose, was founded in 1722, and consecrated in 1724. Dr. Johnson, during his journey to Scotland, after inspecting 'these fragments of magnificence,' the ruins of the Abbey of Aberbrothoc, founded in 1178, proceeded on to Montrose, of which town and its buildings he speaks with much commendation 'We then went to view the English Chapel, and found a small church, clean to a degree, unknown in any other part of Scotland, with commodious galleries, and what was yet less expected, with an organ.' The organ, in 1833, was replaced by one of superior construction, at a cost of three hundred pounds; and a new front to the chapel, with other improvements, were recently completed, but the whole was destroyed by fire on the evening of Saturday, 7th inst., the accident originated in the over heating of the flues of the stove. The curiously painted altar-piece of Moses and Aaron was also consumed. Large subscriptions have however already been effected for the rebuilding of the chapel.

Brechin, Feb. 16. A. J.

YORKSHIRE FLINT ARROW HEADS.

In January Current Notes, p. 8, it is stated, that a person in the East Riding of Yorkshire had employed himself in manufacturing imitations of ancient flint arrow-heads. The assertion had its rise at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, and has since been made current in various forms, but it is nevertheless wholly an error. None but a good workman could produce flint arrow heads with any approach to excellence as to deceive any one who had seen a genuine specimen, while the operation of fabrication would be so tedious, and the chances of sale so precarious, that no one, however dishonest, could possibly obtain any thing like remuneration. The paragraph in the Illustrated Times, Dec. 13, p. 395, which has occasioned all this stir, has been ably answered by Mr. Thomas Wright, whose sagacity as an antiquary had been rather cavalierly treated; in the same paper, for January 10, p. 27. Another reply, in reference to this controversy, has since appeared in the Hull Advertiser, in the following terms:—

As comparatively few of our Yorkshire friends may not either see that publication, or, seeing it, may not fully understand the subject, the writer of this, (who is in no wise connected with any of the parties concerned, nor in the least interested in the matter, except for truth's sake, and having some knowledge of the subject in dispute) begs to say that, independently of, and without any reference to what Mr. Wright has stated, the engravings above referred to, in the tract published by Mr. Wright, were taken from Flint Implements, now in the possession of Mr. Edward Tindall, of Bridlington, and that all of them, with the exception of two, are of Mr. Tindall's own finding, chiefly within short distances from Bridlington. In the museum of Sir George Strickland, Bart., at Boynton Hall, near Bridlington, there is a small but fine collection of flint and stone implements, consisting of a stone hammer, stone and flint celts, as they are called, and spear or arrow-heads of flint, which have been in the museum between thirty and forty years. Some of these articles were found on the estate at Boynton, and others on an estate belonging to the same gentleman, near Malton. Implements of flint, namely sling stones, knives, celts, spear and arrow heads, saws, drills, flat sling stones, and some round, size of a half-crown; also, others of various shapes, the use of which cannot now be satisfactorily ascertained. Some of the flints are rounded, and about the size of a child's ball; some less, and some sharp pointed like a lance, and, at the same time, like a penknife blade in shape. These and many others, too numerous to mention or describe, are now in the possession of Mr. Tindall, who has been a most diligent gatherer of these things upwards of four years; he has, indeed, such a collection of these antiquities as probably is not to be found out of any museum in England, except that of Thomas Bateman, Esq., of Youlgrave, Derbyshire. The writer has also authority for saying, if any person wished to see Mr. Tindall's collection he may do so free of expense, by producing a letter of introduction from the secretary of any antiquarian society; or from the authorised officers of any scientific society in the kingdom.

Feb. 8. K. P. D. E.

Leonardo da Vinci's Last Supper, painted *al fresco*, is by order of the Emperor of Austria, to be restored.

DERIVATION OF THE WORD COWARD.

That 'Coward' is derived from *Cow-heart*, as Mr. PILSON thinks, is highly probable, though the popular etymology is *cow-herd*. Spencer writes *cow-heard*. Ogilvie, Imp. Dict. *sub voce*, says it has been supposed to be from *culum vertere*, to turn the tail, the old French being *culvert*, now *couard*. This suggestion receives countenance from the corresponding word in Italian, *codardo*, which would seem to be derived from *coda*, the tail; and it is confirmed by the use of the term in heraldry to signify a lion borne in the escutcheon with his tail doubled between his legs. The Spanish *cobarde* is a corrupt form, with *b* for *d*, or the French and Venetian *u* (comp. *cul*, *queue*, *coua*), while the Armoric *couhard* comes from the French. To *cow* is to depress with fear. The Scottish *cowe*, which is identical with the Icelandic *Kuga* or *Kufwa*, to depress, signifies also to crop, to lop, to switch the head off. A 'cowed cou' is a hornless or dodded cow. 'I'll cowe yer lugs,' is a common threat held out to mischievous boys. A 'brume cowe' is a broom stalk, deprived of its leaves. To *cuff*, is an almost synonymous Scottish and English verb with *cowe*; and both *cuff* and *cowe* may be traced through many languages. The Scottish has *cluff* with a similar meaning. Compare the English *clap*, German *klap-*, *klapf-*, Swedish *klapp-*, *klepp-*, Dutch *klapp-*, Spanish *golp*, Italian *colp-*, French *coup-*, Latin *culp-*, *colaph-*, Greek *kolap-*, *kolaph-*, Hebrew or Arabic *kalaf*, Sanskrit *klap*. The Scottish *cowie* agrees in sense as in sound with the Latin *ceva*, a small hornless milch cow.

South Shields, Feb. 2. W. B.

Your Correspondent, Mr. JAMES A. PILSON, Current Notes, p. 7, might find another derivation for the word *Coward* than those of *Cow-herd* and *Cow-heart*, in the ancient Spanish word—*Cobardia*, *Covardia*, cowardice—and in the English word *Cower*, to crouch, to slink.

B. B. W.

Are not Messrs. Carrington and Pilson led too much by the ear in deriving Coward from Cow-herd or Cow-heart? Neither comparative philology nor antiquarian research offer anything in support of either of these derivations. The nouns cow, herd, and heart, are Germanic, and are found in all the different branches of the German language. But the word coward is found in none of these save the English.

The modern German for coward *Feigling*, faint-heart, bears no relation to the English, and the substantive *Kuhhirt*, a cowherd, in common use, is applied exclusively to a keeper of cattle. Our chief authorities, Johnson and Richardson, differ in their derivation of the word in question. Johnson has "Coward; (*couard* Fr. of uncertain derivation.)" Richardson, "Coward, French, *Couard*; Spanish, *Cobarde*; Italian, *Codardo*, "*Coward*, i.e. *cowred*, *cowered*, *cower'd*. One who has *cower'd* before an enemy. It has the same import as *supplex*. Coward is the past part of the verb, to *cowre*, or to *cower*, a word formerly in common use." (see Tooke.) Thus Johnson derives the word directly from the old French noun *couard*; Richardson, following Tooke, from the English verb to *cower*.

I believe Johnson is right. That a word similarly spelt, and identical in meaning with the word coward, is found in French, Spanish, and Italian, and is not found in any German dialect, is strong proof of its Latin origin, and the fact that it did not become a portion of the English language until after the diffusion of the Norman literature points out the way by which it was introduced.

Couard is a word of frequent recurrence in old French writings, both verse and prose. It was variously spelt *coard*, *coars*, *coart*, *couard*, *coward*. I am disposed to consider *coard* the earliest spelling, but about the middle of the fourteenth century *couard* became the usual orthography and remained so until the time of Louis XIV., when the word fell into disuse. That the word *couard* was not employed in France in writing only, but was made use of in common conversation is shewn by its being found in many proverbs of that country. Cotgrave gives four of these—"Plus *couard* qu'un lieure," "Le *couard* n'aura belle amie," "Hardie langue, *couarde* lance;" "Mieux vaut *couard* que trop hardi." To which may be added:

> "A horions et escarmouche
> Le *couard* se cache, au se couche."
>
> "Avec le renard on renarde
> Avec le *couard* on couarde."

Johnson appears not to have known the derivation of *couard*, and possibly the French philologists had not in his time agreed upon it. Nevertheless it was known to the Italians, for in Antonini's Italian and French dictionary, published in 1749, I find after the word *Codardo* "Alcuni credono *codardo* derivarsi dalla *coda*, che frà le gambe portans i cani paurosi." This derivation has been generally accepted by the French lexicographers. Roquefort, after giving the meaning of *coardisc*, goes on to derive it from "*coue*, *cauda*, parceque les animaux qui craignent portent la queue entre les jambes." Bescherelle at the word *couard* says "du lat. barb. *codardus*, même signif., formá de *cauda*, queue parceque les animaux timides laissent pendre leur queue entre les jambes."

In old French the modern word *queue* was variously spelt *coe*, *coue*, *coua*, *cowe*, etc. These observations suffice to shew that coward is not formed from the verb to *cower*, nor is it a compound of the German words *cow*, *herd*, or *heart*, but that it is a French word derived from the Latin *cauda* or *coda*, a tail.

Salisbury, Feb. 10. J. W.

The Abbé Chatel, founder of the French Evangelical Church, died at Paris, on Friday the 13th inst., in the sixty-second year of his age. He was so reduced in circumstances, that to obtain a subsistence he for some years past gave lessons of instruction to young children.

SCOTTISH OVER DOOR INSCRIPTIONS.

Upon the burial aisle of the noble family of Ruthven at Forgandenny, Perthshire, are the following apparently renewed lines—

ALL . MEN . THINK . ON . ZOVR . DYING DAY
ZIT . IOY . TO . DIE . TO LIVE . FOR . AY
1369.

Over the small gateway to the Grey Friars' burial ground, in Perth, are these lines—

HOC GENITOR GENETRIXQVE SITI, NVMEROSA VTRIVSQUE
PROGENIES, NATI ET NATÆ, CHARIQVE NEPOTES,
ET NEPTES, NECNON PRONEPTOS ATQVE PRONEPTES.
HÆC QVIQVNQVE LEGIS MORTI. NOS NOSTRAQUE CVNCTA
DEBERI, TANQVAM SPECVLO REFERENTE VIDEBIS;
HÆC ETENIM TRANSIT GENERATIO, NASCITVR ILLA.

On the Police Office in the same town, are these admonitory lines—

THIS HOVSE LOVES PEACE, HATES KNAVES, CRIMES PVNISHETH,
PRESERVES THE LAWS, AND GOOD MEN HONOVRETH.

Since the publication of the inscriptions on Mar's Wark, a building at the head of the Broad street in Stirling, begun by the Regent Earl of Mar, but now a ruin; in Current Notes, July 1855, p. 53, I have had full opportunity of comparing the printed versions with the originals, and finding them incorrect, I forward the following, which considering the decayed state of the letters are as near to the original as it is possible to render them. The first two couplets are on the front of Mars Wark.

THE . MOIR . I . STAND . ON . OPPIN . HITHT
MY . FAVLTIS . MOIR . SVBIECT . AR . TO . SITHT .

I . PRAY . AL . LVIKARIS . ON . THIS . BIGING
VITH . GENTIL . E . TO . GIF . THAIR . IVGING*

The third is on the back of Mar's Wark, within the garden—

ESSPY . SPEIK . FVRTH . AND . SPAIR . NOTHT
CONSIDDIR . VEIL . AND . CAIR . NOTHT .

The last couplet reminds me of an inscription upon an old house in Dunfermline, which proffers more cautious advice, dictated, no doubt, by the discretion of the erector, who was Robert Pitcairn, Commendatory of Dunfermline, and Secretary of State to Queen Mary. The lines are engraved over the chief entrance door to Pitcairn's house in Maygate Street—

SEN . VORD . IS . THRALL . AND . THOCT . IS . FRE
KEIP . VEILL . THY . TONGE . I . COINSELL . THE

Over the door of the farm house of Cossins, parish of Glamis is the following inscription. The stone taken from the castle of Cossins in its demolition, bears the arms of the Lyon and Young families. Prior to the lands of Cossins becoming the property of the noble family of Lyon of Glamis, they formed an ancient lordship which gave during the middle ages surname and title to a family of considerable local repute.

1627.
MR. THOMAS LYON AND MRS. JEAN YOUNG.

PROTEGENDAM PRÆSIDIO DEI GRADAS
SALVTEM. REM SOBOLEM DOMVM
NEC ÆDES VIS PROPIVS TVAS
AVI DAMNA TANGENT . . . . . DEVS
ANGLOS CVSTODIÆ PRÆFICIT.

Upon a house in Lawrencekirk, Kincardineshire, are these brief mementoes of sublunary hope and disappointment.

1814. I THOUGHT ON BETTER TIMES,
1816, BUT WORSE CAME.

Brechin, Feb. 6. A. J.

NON-FREEMEN BARBERS AND PERUKE MAKERS.

The following petition of the Company of Barbers and Surgeons, against a supposed innovation upon their rights and privileges by Foreigners who were non-freemen peruke makers, in 1712, in the reign of Queen Anne, will doubtless be read with interest, as illustrative of the then prevalent practice of wearing perukes so generally represented in the paintings and engravings of that period.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

To the Right Honourable Sir Robert Beachcroft, Knt. Lord Mayor of the City of London, and to the Right Worshipfull, the Aldermen, his brethren.

The humble petition of the Masters or Governors and Assistants of the Mystery and Commonalty of Barbers and Surgeons of London.

Sheweth, That by Charter granted to your Petitioners by King Edward the Fourth, no Surgeon within this City could exercise his art unless he was first approved and admitted thereto by your petitioners, and all the rights and privileges granted by such Charter were afterwards confirmed to your petitioners, by Act of Parliament passed in the thirty-second year of King Henry the Eighth. And by Charters of King James and King Charles the First, the examination and approbation of all Surgeons within seven miles of London is likewise placed in your petitioners.

That by the said Act of Parliament made in the thirty-second year of King Henry the Eighth, intituled an Act for Barbers and Surgeons, it is among other things enacted that No manner of person after the feast of St. Michael then next ensuing [Sept. 29, 1540] should presume to keep any shop of Barbery or Shaving within the City of London, except he be a Freeman of your petitioners' Company, upon pain that every person who should offend against the said Clause should forfeit five pounds per month, one half to the King, and the other half to the Informer.

That Perukes not being in use at the time when your petitioners were incorporated by the said act, in the manner that they are now made, It has been doubted whether the making the same be a part of Barbery within the meaning of the said Act of Parliament.

And upon that presumption great numbers of persons,

* i.e. Judgment, or opinion.

Foreigners, have of late years exercised the said Art of Peruke making within this City, privately in chambers, and without the freedom of your petitioners' Company, or indeed of this Honourable City, to the great prejudice and impoverishment of the several members of your petitioners' Corporation, who pay all public taxes and duties, and bear all offices in their respective Parishes, Companies and Wards, whereas these unfreemen neither do one nor the other, and this notwithstanding that the Art of Peruke making is an improvement from, if not a part of your Petitioners' trade of Barbery, and your Petitioners' own invention, and has always been exercised by them as a branch of the Barbers' trade.

Nor have such unfreemen any skill therein but what they have learned in their employment under your petitioners.

That your Lordship and Worships together with the Common Council of this Honourable City, have in order to redress grievances of this kind, been lately pleased to pass an Act, That no person not free of the City shall occupy any Art, Manual Occupation, or Handicraft, or keep any shop, room, or place inward or outward for sale of any wares or merchandises upon pain of Five Pounds for every time that he shall do contrary to the said Act.

That the said Law may have its due effect against such persons as exercise the respective Arts of Surgery and Peruke making, your petitioners are very willing to putt the said late Act of Common Council in suit at their own expense against all such persons as use either of the said Arts without being Free of this Honourable City, by which means your petitioners do not doubt but to bring more advantage to the City from the said Act than most other Companies.

But that your petitioners may not fail of reaping the benefit thereof in some measure themselves, and for as much as Borders of Hair were made and worn, and were a part of Barbery and the Perukes at the time of passing your petitioners' incorporation Act of Parliament, whereby all Barbers are obliged to be of their Company, and that the laws of your petitioners' Company are best contrived for the government of the said Art, and a very few if any persons are now admitted into your petitioners' Company except Barbers and Surgeons, so that your petitioners do no waies interfere with the other Companies of this Honourable City.

Your petitioners do humbly pray That your Lordship and Worships will be pleased to order that from henceforward No Surgeon or Peruke maker shall be admitted into the freedom of this Honourable City by redemption, unless he has been first admitted into the freedom of your petitioners' Company of Barbers and Surgeons.

LOCALITY OF THE ABDUCTION OF MARY.

Miss Strickland, in following the Act of Parliament by which Bothwell was forfeited, has stated that the precise scene of the abduction of Mary, Queen of Scots, in April, 1567, was at Foulbriggs, now known as Fountainbridge, a western suburb of Edinburgh; considerable doubt has, however, recently arisen, and it is now contended from contemporary historians and the Privy seal record, that Miss Strickland's is an erroneous assertion, and that the real spot was at the two bridges across the Almond, on the borders of Edinburghshire and Linlithgowshire.

THE RAMBLER AND THE ADVENTURER.

The secret history of any popular work, periodicals more especially, as to who were the contributors, and in reference to the appropriation of the papers to their respective authors, has always been matter of interest and moment with the public. The Rambler, by Dr. Johnson, revigorated the taste for that species of reading, which had been dormant from the period of the Spectator, the Tatler, and the Guardian; but the Adventurer, as started by Dr. Hawkesworth, from its pleasing variety, became at once more popular than the Rambler; the sale in numbers was considerable, and four large editions were published in less than nine years. The elegance, indeed, of the composition, the charms of the narrative part, and its evident tendency to promote piety and virtue, are recommendations which, it is hoped, can never lose their effect.

To the Adventurer, Dr. Hawkesworth is chiefly indebted for his high literary character and fame. Among his early associates in this paper, the first number of which appeared on Tuesday, November 7, 1752, continued on Saturdays and Tuesdays, to the one hundred and fortieth number; was Bonnell Thornton, whose contributions are marked with the signature A, but his accustomed indolence occasioned irregularity in his communications, and we find but eight papers, nos. 3, 6, 9, 19, 23, 25, 35, and 43, bearing that signature; the last being dated April 3, 1753, refutes the assertion of Alexander Chalmers, that Thornton quitted the Adventurer to become a joint partner with Colman, in the Connoisseur, which did not appear till February, 1754. Hawkesworth has himself stated, the contributions from this channel "soon failed," and its causes have here been explained on good grounds.

The stipulated price which all the authors received from Payne, the publisher, was two guineas for each paper; this was advanced by the bookseller, who risked all expenses, and was soon amply remunerated by a more rapid and extensive sale than the Rambler ever obtained. Another of Hawkesworth's associates was Dr. Richard Bathurst, a physician of considerable skill, but without much practice, and a member of the Johnsonian Ivy-lane Club of Literati. He was the son of Colonel Bathurst, a West India planter, from whom Johnson received his black servant, Francis Barber. The colonel left his affairs on his death in absolute ruin, and the doctor's emolument arising from his contributions to these papers were, it is believed, of considerable service to him in a pecuniary view—his papers have no distinctive marks; those with the signature A are, in the late editions of the British Essayists, improperly appropriated to him—these were, indisputably, from style and subject, Thornton's; nor is there any memorandum extant by which those of Bathurst's can be separated from those given to Dr. Hawkesworth. Employment abroad in his profession being proffered him, Dr. Bathurst readily accepted it, and in the expedition against the Havannah, he fell a sacrifice to the climate. Dr. Johnson, by whom he was, by reason of his amiable manners, highly esteemed, in a letter to Bennet Langton,

thus tenderly lamented his demise—"The Havannah is taken, a conquest too dearly obtained, for Bathurst died before it—

Vix Priamus tanti totaque Troja fuit."

Chalmers, quoting Boswell, says, "It cannot be known how much Dr. Bathurst actually contributed We have, however, the express authority of Sir John Hawkins that Dr. Bathurst wrote the papers signed A; and without depending implicitly on this authority, which is certainly wrong, we may safely assert, that if Dr. Bathurst did not write these papers, he did not write any part of the work, for all the other papers are appropriated, upon undoubted authority, to Dr. Hawkesworth, Johnson, and Warton, with the exception of two or three, the authors of which were unknown to the Editor, are pointed out in this edition."*

That Boswell blundered egregiously cannot be questioned, both in this matter and the part Dr. Johnson took in the Adventurer, when, by the loss of Bathurst, and the uncertainty of Thornton, Johnson and Joseph Warton became Hawkesworth's coadjutors. Boswell has said Johnson began to write in the Adventurer on April 10, 1753, but the thirty-fourth paper, printed on Saturday, March 3, was certainly the production of his pen; and an unpublished letter of Payne, the publisher, to Dr. Warton, furnishes data and facts connected with the progress of the Adventurer, which show that no certainty of appropriation of the papers to Hawkesworth previous to that junction can be established—at least as regards those which have no distinctive signature. Dr. Johnson asserted that the Hon. Hamilton Boyle wrote in the Adventurer; probably no. 33, that with the ***, which in Chalmers' edition, is given to Hawkesworth, or one of the earlier papers which remain without assignment. Payne's letter is as follows:—

Rev. Sir,—As your paper [on what Arts the Moderns excel the Ancients] will not be printed till Tuesday se'nnight, I was willing to gratify your curiosity by sending *The Connoisseur* to-night.† It is full of dull commonplace stuff, and is, I think, not worthy of Thornton. It is disgusting, I own, to give such imperfect translations of passages selected for the peculiar purposes of our papers, but the Spectator, etc., began it, the unlettered expect the continuance of it, and we must gratify that expectation. The translation of the passage from Dr. M[usgrave?] which I sent you, is radically bad, and cannot be mended by alteration. We must take our chance for a translation from Mr. Johnson, which you must help me to procure, and which I will print after the contents of the volume in which it occurs. Last Saturday Mr. Hawkesworth got T. [Johnson] to supply his place; he has begged the same favour of him for Tuesday, on account of a violent pain in his face; but he does not mean that T. should lose his own turn; the state of our affairs, therefore, from last Tuesday se'nnight, stands thus:—

127 Z. 128 T. for H[awkesworth.] 129 Z. 130 H. Saturday, Feb. 2, these are published. 131 T. 132 H. 133 Z. The paper I received yesterday. 134 H. 135 T 136 H. 137 Z. 138 H. 139 T. 140 H.

By this disposition, which H. has given me, you will not have room for your criticism on Othello, unless you can include it in one paper, which is hardly possible. It may, therefore, be useful to wind up your papers of that kind by some general subject; for Johnson says each must wind up his bottom, and not leave the world in ignorance of our design till the last paper.

Of ninety-two members, since you began [amending the whole] supposing the whole to be finished—

Hawkesworth will have written	39	43
The three signed Y were submittted for his	3	
And one signed &.	1	
T. will have written for his own share	23	25
And for Hawkesworth	2	
Which is two above his number.		
Z. will have written	24	
Which is one above his number, for	92	

Hawkesworth should have written	46	Himself	39
		Y.	3
		&.	1
		T.	2
		Z.	1
T. [Johnson]	23		
And Z. [Warton]	23		
	92		

I have had no contents since no. 105.

I am, your's sincerely,

Feb 2 [1754]. J. PAYNE.

The words enclosed within a bracket [amending the whole] scored over by a pen in the letter, induces a supposition that Hawkesworth was faltering, and that to Warton was confided the strict revision of the whole; certain it is, that to him, in the conduct of the Adventurer, the province of criticism and literature was consigned, and most ably has Warton taught us how the brow of criticism may be smoothed, and how she may be directed, notwithstanding her severity, to attract and to delight.

Johnson's letter to Dr. Warton, dated March 8, 1753, apprising him of the part in *The Adventurer* that would be assigned to him, if he would accept of it, states, "I have no part in the paper beyond now and then a motto,"—ques. what was meaned by part? The thirty-fourth paper, with his signature, T., had been printed on the third of that month, and a conjecture arises that that paper, the thirty-ninth and the forty-first, were really Johnson's, but contributed by Dr. Bathurst, as Boswell, in explanation, asserts "Mrs. Williams told me that as he had given those essays to Dr. Bathurst, who sold them at two guineas each, he never would own them, nay, he used to say he did not *write* them; but the fact was, he *dictated* them, while Bathurst wrote. I read to him Mrs. Williams's account; he smiled and said nothing." Payne's letter speaks but of the twenty-three Johnson had written under the signature T. for his own share; but there are twenty-eight papers with that distinctive mark, two having been written to assist Hawkesworth; Boswell was, therefore, possibly correct

* British Essayists, 1817, duod. Vol. xxiii. p. 24.

† The first paper of the Connoisseur, written by Bonnell Thornton, published on Saturday, February 2, 1754.

when he stated Johnson commenced with the forty-fifth number, on April 10th, for his own share; the three previous papers being sold to Payne for Dr. Bathurst's personal advantage, and possibly all the share the latter had in any way in the Adventurer.

Chalmers' assertion "Dr. Hawkesworth's share of the Adventurer amounts exactly to a half, or seventy papers," is, by this letter, proved to be a flourish upon fancy; it is not sufficiently clear what portion of the first thirty-eight were really from his pen, as by Payne's letter it appears of the remaining one hundred and two papers Hawkesworth wrote but thirty-nine. Nos. 77, 78, and 79, subscribed FIDELIA, and bearing the mark Y, were written by Miss Mulso, who, in 1760, became Mrs. Chapone. No. 90, printed Saturday, Sept. 15, 1753, with the signature & was contributed by Colman, subsequently the conductor of *The Connoisseur;* it displays an erudite knowledge of literary history and criticism; and was, in fact, no mean merit to have produced such a paper at the early age of twenty.

The arrangements spoken of by Payne as to the completion were ultimately otherwise, as Hawkesworth contributed Nos. 135 and 136; Johnson, Nos. 137 and 138; and Warton, in No. 139, undertook to explain the design of the critical papers in the Adventurer; Hawkesworth, in the last, giving an account of the general plan and conclusion of the work—in this he pathetically concludes —

Time, who is impatient to date my last paper, will shortly moulder the hand that is now writing it in the dust, and still the breast that now throbs at the reflection; but let not this be read as something that relates only to another; for a few years only can divide the eye that is now reading, from the hand that has written. This awful truth, however obvious, and however reiterated, is yet frequently forgotten; for, surely, if we did not lose our remembrance, or at least our sensibility, that view would always predominate in our lives, which alone can comfort us when we die.

SCHULTZ AB ASCHERADE.—Res sub Ævo gestas Memoriæ tradidit Carl Gust. Schultz ab Ascherade Hagæ Comitum apud P. F. Goffe, 1787; 8vo. pp. 295.

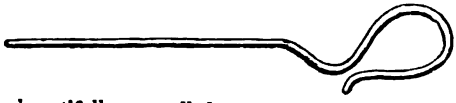
The volume printed on a thick paper, in Octavo, has the pages of type of a duodecimo size, with wide margin, and contains two portraits, one of Frederick II., King of Prussia, the other of William Pitt, Earl of Chatham. Some notice of the author C. G. Schultz ab Ascherade is particularly required, and most biographical and bibliographical Dictionaries, English and Foreign, have been consulted but in vain, with the exception of the Dictionary partially published by the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, in which under Ascherade, reference is made to Schultz, but the seven volumes of that work only extended to the end of the letter A. Qu., What was the source from which the Editors derived their notes respecting this Schultz?

Ascherade is a town in Bavaria, six miles north of Carlstadt.

Feb. 14. R. T.

RESEARCHES IN FORFARSHIRE.

The hill of Laws, in Forfarshire, an isolated position, about two miles north of the point where the river Tay falls into the sea, has hitherto been considered a vitrified site; but the excavations now going on rather tend to overturn that idea, and here are found the remains of a loose stone work, gigantic in size, and so far as is known to the writer, unique in character. These excavations are being made by the proprietor, James Neish, Esq., solely for the purpose of clearly ascertaining the character of the work which covers the summit of the hill. The pin here shewn, was found among *debris* at a considerable depth, it is nearly four inches



long, beautifully enamelled upon brass, and apparently by the same process as that now in use. It is submitted in the hope that some correspondent to Current Notes may throw some light upon the period and the people when these sort of articles were in use? Posterity will be indebted to the liberality of the proprietor in thus effecting a discovery of one of the most singular constructions yet exemplified in Scotland.

A. J.

Brechin, Feb. 16.

The following inscription I copied a few months since in Richmond churchyard, Surrey. That the Lady's husband was a Muff by nature, as well as by name, is unquestioned.

Rood Lane, Feb. 7. W. WILLIAMS.

Sacred to the Memory
of
ANNE MUFF, wife of WILLIAM MUFF,
who departed this Life
17 May, 1842, aged 50 years.

Deplore with me my Friends
My Wife she is dead,
The pride of my House it is gone,
On a pillow of turf she reposes her head;
And her bosom is bound with the green.
Those Lips were my own, where in kisses perfumed
Yield now a coldness to the worm
Soon in dust and decay
Must her charms be consumed
And no relic be left of her form.
Her death Bed fresh flowers shall religiously grace
As each mornings Dews & Sunbeams return,
And the hand of affection shall tremblingly trace
This record one the best of her Urn.
Here rests a fine Woman who was sent from above
To teach graces and virtue to man,
But God when he saw her in bad hands
Took pity and recalled her to Heaven again.

SCOT AND LOT.—We read in some of the Cornish histories that the right of voting extended to all the inhabitants 'paying Scot and Lot.' I shall feel greatly obliged to any reader of Current Notes who will inform me what this term means?

Penzance, Feb. 16. W.

Scot and Lot are words adopted from the Saxons by our ancestors, and incorporated by them into our vernacular tongue; the former from ſceat, a part or portion, the latter from Hlot, lot or chance. The term signified a customary contribution laid upon all subjects according to their ability. In the laws of William the Conqueror, ch. 125, it is directed—all Frenchmen, as well as English, should, according to the English law, observed in the reign of his predecessor King Edward, pay Scot and Lot. The words are there—Anhlote and Anscote. Again, Hoveden, under 1088, states—Rex omne injustum Scottum interdixit. Scot, at times in early records written Scoth, is also in the sense of a contributory payment to any particular object or tax, frequently so indicated by early foreign jurists and lawyers. The charter of William, Earl of Flanders, confirming the Customs of St. Omer, in 1127, enacts—Nullum Scot, nullum talliam, nullam pecuniæ suæ petitionem, ab eis requiro.

Spelman derives the origin of the terms Scot and Lot as already stated, from William the Norman, nor are these old words grown obsolete, for whoever in like manner (though not by equal proportion) are assessed to any contribution, are generally said to pay Scot and Lot. See Statute 33 Henry VIII. cap. 9.

MEANING OF THE WORD STONEHENGE.

One never thinks it worth while to notice the innumerable etymologies with which we are so often favoured by gentlemen who con over their Welsh or Hebrew Dictionaries. They may be very clever and ingenious, but satisfactory only to the discoverer himself. When, however, a scholar like Mr. J. M. Kemble publishes his interpretation of a word, and that word Anglo-Saxon, it becomes a very different matter, and I dare say 999 people out of a thousand would receive the explanation without doubt or questioning. It seems, therefore, most desirable to have any errors, if errors there be, from such a source, at once set right; and for this reason I now trouble you with some remarks upon 'A Note about the word Stonehenge,' which will be found in a late number of your excellent contemporary, Notes and Queries.

In this 'Note,' Mr. Kemble says: 'Now, the proper form of word in Anglo-Saxon was *Stánhengena*, or possibly *Stanhengen*, in the first case being plural, in the second singular, therefore either the 'stone-gallowses,' or the 'stone-gallows.' After a column of remarks, some true enough, but not much to the purpose, and others to the purpose, but more than doubtful, he concludes thus: 'I think it however quite possible that the Triliths may have served as gallowses on some grand occasion'; and that after a defeat, some British leaders may have been sacrificed by tying them up to Woden on the same. But as long as the Anglo-Saxon language is Anglo-Saxon, Stonehenge can mean nothing but the stone-gallowses.'

The various accounts that have been given of these wonderous stones would fill a volume; but I question whether any, even an Antediluvian and Mammoth hypothesis, is as startling as Mr. Kemble's. As he quotes no authorities for any assertion that he makes, we must deal with his statements as we best can; and I think I can shew that there is no foundation for his strange opinion that the Triliths had been used as gallowses, seeing that his analysis of the name is not at all to be depended on.

Stánhengen, if there ever was such a word, did not, and could not, mean 'stone-gallows.' We find the word *hengen* occurring several times in the Anglo-Saxon Laws. In King Ethelred's (p. 142) *hengen-witnung*, is translated imprisonment, and in the Laws of Cnut, (p. 170) a friendless man must submit to prison, and abide there—pone gebuge he hengenne and pær gebide, etc. In Mr. Thorpe's Glossary, *Hengen* is defined 'Ergastulum, a prison in which those confined were condemned to hard labour;' and *Hengwite* is the fine for letting an offender escape from prison, *hengen*. Stánhengen therefore means a stone prison, and can mean nothing but a stone-prison; but the real word is Stonehenge, and the form given in Henry of Huntingdon, 'apud Stanenges,' proves that *hengen* was not the latter part of it. Whether henge is adjective or substantive, or what its precise meaning was, there is, I fear, no evidence to shew; but till we find this in an intelligible form, we may as well acknowledge our ignorance; bold assertions, assuredly, will not help us at all. IOTA.

Lord Lyndhurst's expression which occasioned so much umbrage, that 'the Irish were aliens in blood, and language, and religion,' appears to have a classical authority in Livy, XXIV., 3.

Morituros se, affirmabant Crotoniatæ, citius quam immixti Bruttiis in alienos ritus mores legesque ac mox linguam etiam verterentur.

F. E. G.

ST. IVES' LOVING CUP.

When this town was first denominated a borough has become a disputed question, but it was fully incorporated in 1639. The charter of Incorporation was procured by Sir Francis Basset, then member for St. Ives, who in honour of the event presented to the Corporation, a cup on which was engraved the following inscription:

If any discord 'twixt my friends arise,
Within the Borough of beloved St. Ives,
It is desyned that this my Cupp of Love,
To every one a peace-maker may prove:
Then I am blest to haue given a legacie
So like my harte unto posteritie.

FRANCIS BASSET, Anno 1640.

Is it known that this Loving Cup is still extant?

Penzance, Feb. 16. W.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXV.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [MARCH, 1857.

SAINT MONACELLA'S LAMBS.

Recently reading a volume of Popular Stories, I found hares are there designated 'Saint Monacella's Lambs;' but on referring to the list of Saints' days in Nicolas's Chronology of History, no such saint is there noticed. Can any reader of Current Notes kindly inform me who Saint Monacella was, and why hares are so particularly under her tutelage?

Hastings, March 10. M. A. G.

The legend of St. Monacella relates that she was the daughter of an Irish Monarch, who had determined to marry her to a nobleman of his court. She had however vowed celibacy, fled from her father's dominions, and took refuge in Wales, where she lived fifteen years without seeing the face of man. At length, Brochwel Yscythrog, Prince of Powis, one day hare-hunting, pursued his game till he came to a great thicket, when he was amazed to find a virgin of surprising beauty, engaged in deep devotion, with under her robe the hare he had been pursuing, boldly facing the dogs, who retired howling to a distance, notwithstanding all the efforts of the prince's followers to make them seize their prey. Even when the huntsman attempted to blow his horn, it stuck to his lips. The prince heard her story, and gave to God and to her a parcel of land, to be a sanctuary to all that fled there. He desired her to found an Abbey on the spot; she did so, and died Abbess thereof in a good old age. She was buried in the neighbouring church, called Pennant, distinguished from her burial there by the addition of Melangell.

Pennant, *Tour in Wales*, vol. ii. p. 347, notices—At about two miles distance from Llangynog, I turned up a small valley to the right, to pay my devotions to the shrine of St. Monacella, or as the Welsh style her, Melangell. Her hard bed is shewn in the cleft of a neighbouring rock; and her tomb was in a little chapel, or oratory adjoining to the church of Pennant Melangell, now used as a vestry-room. This room is still (1784) called Cell-y-bedd, or the Cell of the Grave; but her reliques, as well as her image, have long since been removed. The last is, I think, still to be seen in the churchyard, and the legend is perpetuated by some rude wooden carvings of the saint, with numbers of hares scuttling to her for protection. She properly became their patroness, and they were called Mwyn Melangell—St. Monacella's Lambs. The superstitious opinion so generally prevailed till the last century, that no person in the parish would kill a hare; and even later, when a hare was pursued by the dogs, it was as positively believed, that it was sure to escape, if any one said—God and Saint Monacella be with thee!

Saint Melangle's day is noticed by Sir N. H. Nicolas as occurring on January 31.

The Fairs hitherto held at Easter and Whitsuntide at Greenwich, have this year been suppressed.

PROVINCIAL RHYMES.

Halliwell in his Nursery Rhymes, 1844, p. 47, notices some 'scholastic' lines—

In fir tar is, in oak none is.
In mud eel is, in clay none is.
Goat eat ivy, man eat oats.

and observes—'the joke consists in saying these lines so quick that it cannot be told whether it is English or gibberish. For the version now printed, more complete than the one given by Chambers, I am indebted to Professor De Morgan, who has heard it in Dorsetshire.' As a reference to their probable antiquity, he also states the words in the last line are quoted in a manuscript of the fifteenth century, Sloane Coll. 4; see Reliquæ Antiquæ, vol. i. p. 324.

In Buckinghamshire, there is a similar jocosery that has escaped him: the words are spoken so rapidly by most speakers, that few persons are able during the repetition to catch one word, or even the probable sense of what is there spoken.

As I was going up trictable tractable present,
There I spied unicle crunicle cronicle current;
I called my man Richard, a doctor of physic,
To bring out his ficarige facarige fan,
To shoot unicle crunicle cronicle current,
That sat upon trictable tractable present.

Possibly other counties had their popular rhymes, now fast passing into desuetude, and in many instances to be irrecoverably forgotten, unless occasionally transmitted to the pages of your widely diffused Current Notes.

Great Missenden, March 9. N. H.

The following Charade, the production of an eminent Dignitary of the Church, has been handed to me for solution, which I have been unable to render; perhaps some of your readers may be more successful.

Oldbury, March 14. J. LOWE.

I sit here on a rock whilst I'm raising the wind,
When the storm is abated I'm gentle and kind;
I have kings at my feet who await but my nod,
To kneel in the dust on the ground where I trod;
I am seen by the world, yet am known but to few;
The Gentiles detest me, I'm Pork to the Jew.
I never have passed but one night in the dark,
And that was with Noah alone in the ark;
My weight is three pounds, my length is a mile;
And when I'm discover'd you'll say with a smile—
My first and my last are the best in the Isle.

A solution in rhyme would be very acceptable. Ed.

TOUCHING FOR THE KING'S EVIL.

M. V.'s Enquiry in Current Notes for January last, induces me to forward the following paper, which was directed to the Company of Barbers and Surgeons, in the reign of Charles the Second, when it appears the Stuarts practised this with other deceptions, in accordance with their imbibed notions of the monarchical Right Divine. This mesmeric delusion was continued during the reign of Queen Anne, and the Evil Angels or Tokens were gold pieces; but those presented by the Old Pretender were silver. The original document, of which this is a transcript, is endorsed—'Proposals for Regulating the Healings, in King Charles the Second's Reign;' but though designated Proposals, these instructions were delivered to the Officials of the Barbers and Surgeons, as a Mandate for their observance.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

For the better regulating of the Healings, his Majestie is pleased to Order as followeth:—

That the Public Healings be limited to the months of March and Aprill for the Spring Season, and October and November for the Fall. The disease at those times being most apparent, and the weather then most temperate, both for his Majestie to touch, and the poore people to travell.

That a convenient House, Tent, or other Place be appointed for the viewing of the diseased—having one door to enter in, and another to goe forth at; and that at each door, two of his Majesties Guards be ordered to stand; and next to the first door, within shall stand the Serjeant Chyrurgeon in waiting with the rest of the Serjeant Chyrurgeons, and the Chyrurgeon in Ordinary to his Majesties Person, and at least, one of his Majesties Physitians in Ordinary to view the diseased people.

And that no Tickett be given but by the Serjeant Chyrurgeon in writing, and that in the presence and with the approbation of the rest before mentioned; and that the names and dwelling places of such as receive Ticketts be registered in a Booke by the Serjeants man.

That the Serjeant Chyrurgeon in waiting shall admit and passe any to be healed, who shall be sent to him from any of his Majesties Physitians in Ordinary, bringing a note signed under his hand.

That all such as present themselves to be healed shall bring a Certificate under the hands of the Minister and Churchwardens of the parish wherein they live, that they have never been touched by his Majestie.

That a command be sent to the Bishops of London, Winchester, and Rochester, that the Minister of each parish within the Cities of London and Westminster, and within ten miles distance round about be ordered by them to send their hands and seals in a small piece of parchment, to be kept always in readiness, to compare with their hands which they sett to Certificates; And that every Minister register what Certificates he gives to prevent the abuse of certifying more than once for one person, which hath been too frequently done.

That no person, be it his Majesties Servant, or other, upon paine of his Majesties displeasure, presume to bring into his Majesties presence any one to be touched for the Evill, who hath not been viewed and received a Token for the same.

That neither for viewing the sicke, registering their names, giving Tokens, or presenting them to his Majestie, the Serjeant Chyrurgeon, or his Servant, or any other Assistant, presume to demand or to receive any Money or Present whatsoever.

That none presume to wait at the Healing, but the Serjeant Chyrurgeon, and such other of his Majesties Chyrurgeons as are necessary; the Apothecary to his Majesties Person, and what other of his Majesties Servants shall be appointed, that so his Majestie may not be pressed upon, and the Ceremony hindred by officious Waiters.

That whereas when there was but one Serjeant Chyrurgeon, the Chyrurgeon to the Person did officiate in his absence as Serjeant, since now there are by his Majesties favour three Serjeants,

That the Chyrurgeon to the Person may not be deprived of the Rights of his Place, and rendered useless by the Serjeants waiting one for another,

Be it ordered, That in the sickness or absence of each Serjeant, the Chyrurgeon to the Person wait in his room as when there was but one Serjeant, and alsoe that he takes his turns in Hunting and Journeys with each Serjeant in his month as heretofore.

And that the rather, because his Majestie hath declared by an Act of Counsell, that the Serjeants as they die shall be reduced to one as before.

ROY'S WIFE OF ALDIVALLOCH.

Mrs. Grant was certainly the authoress of Roy's Wife of Aldivalloch. In the additional Illustrations to Johnson's Scottish Musical Museum, Edinb. 1839, vol. IV., p. 368,* is an extract of a letter from George Thomson, the correspondent of Burns; concerning this lady—the writer says, 'Mrs. Grant of Carron is the same lady who married Dr. Murray of Bath, but I know not her maiden name, nor whether she be alive or dead—dead probably, for she was well up in years, when she married the Doctor, whom I knew well, a warm hearted Irishman, and a very good flute-player. She was generally understood to be the writer of Roy's Wife, but I cannot help you to any written authority for the fact. You are quite right in suspecting traditional authorities *in general*—they are little to be relied on.'

Mr. David Laing, the erudite editor of the Museum, adds—'Through the obliging enquiries of J. P. Grant, Esq., son of the late Mrs. Grant of Laggan; I have since learned the following particulars of this lady. Her maiden name was Grant, and she was born near Aberlour, on the banks of the river Spey, about the year 1745. She was twice married, first to her cousin, Grant of Carron, near Elchies, on the river Spey, about 1763, and secondly to a Physician in Bath, whose name is stated to have been Dr. Brown, not Murray. She died at Bath, sometime about 1814, and is not known to have written any other song than Roy's Wife.'

I may, however, state, it is quite certain that the name of the lady's second husband was Murray, not Brown; and that I have in a manuscript collection attributed to her pen, several songs written by her. They are chiefly on local subjects.

March 14. EDWARD F. RIMBAULT.

HISTORICAL NOTICES OF LITERARY PERSONS.

The following extracts from the parish register of St. Giles's, Cripplegate, may possibly interest some readers of Current Notes.

Burrille in Aprille 1587.

John Fox, householder, preacher, the 20 day.

This entry, it is almost nugatory to observe, refers to the great Martyrologist.

Under those of Weddings in August, 1620, is notified the marriage of the Protector.

Oliver Crumwell and Elizabeth Bourchr. 22.

Among the Burials in November, 1674, is recorded the sepulture of the immortal author of Paradise Lost.

John Milton, Gentleman, Consumpscōn, Chancell, 12.

Daniel de Foe was born in this parish in 1661; his literary career, memorable as it was, did not avail to secure him against penury and want at the close of life. He is believed to have died in insolvent circumstances, at an obscure lodging in this parish, and under 'burying in April,' 1731, occurs —

Daniel De Foe, Gentleman, to Tindalls, Lethargy, 26.

'To Tindall's' implied that the corpse was borne thence to Tindalls burying ground, more generally known by the appellation of Bunhill Fields.

Old Jewry, March 2. S. G.

EPITAPHS IN PERTH AND FORFARSHIRE.

Travel where you will, the eye of the observer will frequently discern among the memorials of the dead much to interest him, and arrest his attention, and although much that is quaint may be often too broadly expressed to correspond with the generally received notions of the solemnity of the scene, yet there these memorials are; our railing at them does not displace them, or alter the effect which their reality creates; we must comply with the fact to receive them with all their inconsistencies, and make them available either for the purposes of history, or of mental consideration. Embued with these feelings, in my journeys I have not passed the depositories of the departed without casting a longing, lingering look behind, and have noted many an epitaph which doubtless will conduce to the amusement, if not of the instruction, of the reader; and as Current Notes are read in situations far distant from the Metropolis, or the busy haunts of the artisan or the commercial man, your columns are often the vehicle of much to gratify the desultory as well as the studious reader, and believing that epitaphs are at all times acceptable, I enclose the following for your adoption.

In Grey Friars' churchyard, Perth, lie the remains of the Rev. William Wilson, who died in his fifty-first year, in 1741. He was originally a minister of the Middle Church, Perth, to which he was ordained in 1716; and being the first to join and support Ebenezer Erskine in his views against the laws of Church Patronage in the Church of Scotland, was by the General Assembly in 1740, with several other parish ministers, deposed from his official capacity. Thus deprived of his old church, and followed by the greater part of his congregation, he became the founder of the Secession Church in Perth. His epitaph thus pronounces his eulogium—

More brave than David's mighty men,
This Champion fought it fair
In Truth's defence, both by the pen,
The pulpit, and the chair.
He stood with his associates true
To Scotland's solemn oath;
And taught to render homage due
To God, and Cæsar both.
Earth, raging from his sacred post
Debarred the worthy sage;
Heaven frown'd and sent a furious host
To, venge the sacriledge.
Mourn Zion, your Elijah's gone
And wafted to the skies —
Mourn, till his fiery car bring down
A soul of equal size.

On a memorial in the Grey Friars, Perth, to Robert Vallance, Deacon of the Weavers, who died in 1781, aged 65, are these lines —

Muse, here assist me now, I surely must,
Relate brave Vallance character that's just.

Renowned, much justice will join his cause,
Of tradesmen, he in Perth, deserves applause —
Betrayed no trust was put into his hand,
Endeavouring allways by the truth to stand.
Ready he was, and that at any hour,
To make address [redress ?], or to relieve the poor.

Vallance, whose virtuous actions shone so bright,
Always did stand up for the City's right;
Let monuments or some recorded verse
Loud unto Ages his bright fame rehearse.
All craftsmen who him knew will yet declare
None in the Country could with him compare.
Grief now, nor pain, no more his peace annoys;
Enter'd the Choir, he lives in perfect joys.

It will doubtless be observed this is composed as an acrostic.

In Dunfermline Abbey churchyard, on Elizabeth Meiklejohn, who died 1761, aged 27, we read—

Reader, see how death all doun puls,
And nought remains but shanks and skulls;
For the greatest Champion ere drew breath,
Was all-wise conquered by Death.

In Forfarshire, I have noted the following distich in the old kirkyard of Kinnaird, Farnell, A.D. 1600.

HVE [WE] . DOE . THIS . FOR . NO . WTHER . END
BVT . THAT . OWR . BVRIAL . MAY . BE . KEND.

Within the old kirk of Nevay, the stone in a mutilated condition—

Heir lye the Tyries in Nevay
Honest men and brave follows.

In Strathmartin old burial ground, on James Anderson, 1690:

Among the earth beneath this stone
Doth his forefathers ly
And this has been ther burial place
Sine mans rememberie.

On another, in the same place, name illegible, 1754:

Heir lyes a godly honest man,
All men that knew him said,—
He was an elder of the church,
And weaver to his trade.

In the old kirkyard of Essie, on David Wighton, schoolmaster, who died in 1717, aged 75.

Below this Tomb there lyeth thus
Ean David Wightoun in the Bush.
A Rabie Father was indeed
As you may see this tomb to read.
In English, and Arithmetic both,
He could both write and spell;
In Greek a great proficient;
In Hebrew did excell.

In Newgate churchyard, on Robert Small, who died 1771—

Here lies the dust of Robert Small,
Who, when in life was thick, not tall;
But what's of greater consequence,
He was endowed with good sense.

Brechin. A. J.

The epitaph, 'My Sledge and Hammer lie reclined,' printed in Current Notes, p. 8, is also in Aston Churchyard, near Birmingham, and in several others in various parts of the kingdom. Which is the original?

Oldbury, March 14. J. Lowe.

Heralds' College. Had the great Fire of London, 1666, any effect on the records of the Heralds' College?

Are there any other countries besides England and Ireland, who have now any Colleges or Office of Arms?

Rotheram, March 13. F. W. H.

The Heralds' College was destroyed, but the records and books, with one or two exceptions, were, as the fire approached, moved to a room in the palace at Whitehall, near the Court of Requests, formerly called the Queen's Court. After the fire, notice was given in the Gazettes, the Heralds' Office was held there.

Scotland has her Heralds' College, the chief officer being Lion King of Arms, Edinburgh.

An old newspaper, even in a moment of listlessness, has its charms. It puts one into something like the condition of a prescient being. Perusing the journals of the by-gone day, we see passions agitating, which are now extinct; reports affirmed, which we know to be false; alarms sounded, which we are sure had no foundation; and expectation all alive—upon projects which have ended in nothing.

Rogers' Monument.—In the chancel of the parish church of Hornsey, a mural memorial has been placed by the poet's nephews; it consists of a medallion head, by Behnes, and is deemed an admirable resemblance; below which is the following inscription:—

In Memory of
Samuel Rogers,
Author of the 'Pleasures of Memory,'
Born at Newington Green, xxx July, MDCCLXIII.
Died at St. James's Place, Westminster, xviii Dec., MDCCCLV.
His mortal remains are buried in this churchyard.

EARLY ENGLISH LOVE SONG.

Am I not in blessed case,
Treasure and Pleasure to possesse;
I would not wishe no better place,
If I may still have welthiness:
And to enjoye in perfect peace
My Lady, Lady:
My pleasaunt pleasure shall encrease,
My deare Lady.

Helene may not compared be,
Nor Creseda that was so bright;
These cannot staine the shine of thee,
Nor yet Minerua of great might.
Thou passest Venus farre away,
Lady, Lady;
Loue thee I will both night and day,
My dere Lady.

My mouse, my nobs, my cony sweete,
My hope and ioye, my whole delight;
Dame Nature may fall at thy feete,
And yeelde to thee her crowne of righte.
I will thy body now embrace,
Lady, Lady;
And kiss thy swete and pleasaunt face,
My deare Lady.

Enterlude of the Triall of Treasure, 1567.

Irish Quarters.—Looking over some old family letters, I find the following Epigram which has some point, and may afford some amusement.

More than Four Quarters in the year,
Could never yet be made appear;
Till Parl'ment omnipotently great,
Received a Bill creating Eight.

The bill introduced into the Irish Parliament, was for increasing the number of Quarter Sessions.

Belfast, March 10. R. B.

A special general meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects was held on Monday, the 2nd inst., when it was resolved unanimously to humbly submit to Her Majesty's gracious consideration, the awarding of the Royal gold medal for the year 1856, to Mr. Owen Jones, Member of the Institute, author of *The Alhambra*, the *Grammar of Ornament*, and other works, all of which are entitled to much commendation, and are highly popular.

Blue Stockings. May I ask what was the origin of the blue stocking associations of which we read till within a few past years, and even now when some ladies generally of a certain age are in society, they are *en passant* spoken of or alluded to, as quite 'blue stockings?' They seem as coteries to be of but a modern date.

Belgrave Square. W.

The origin of blue stocking coteries derived from an association of parties, partly chivalrous and partly festive, is of a much earlier date than generally supposed. The society *de la Calza* (of the Stocking), was instituted at Venice in the year 1400, in honour of the inauguration of Michael Steno, Procurator of Saint Mark, as Doge. The business of its members was conversation and festivity, and so attractive were their entertainments of music and dancing, that the gay spirits of other parts of Italy assiduously sought the honour of admission as members. Their statutes had solely reference to the ceremonies of their balls and general meetings for diversion, and the members, being resolved on their rigorous observance took an oath in a church to that tendency. They had banners and a seal as an authorised order of Knighthood, and their costume was displayed in all the elegance and splendour which the luxuriancy of Venetian taste could devise; but with the inconsistency of the whimsical custom of the Italians of bedizening or marking their academies and other intellectual associations by some external signs of caprice or folly, the members when they assembled for literary discussions were distinguished by the colours of their stockings. These colours were sometimes fantastically blended, and on others, only one colour, particularly the blue prevailed. The society *de la Calza* continued till 1590, when the foppery of Italian Literature assumed another symbol; the rejected title then crossed the Alps, and found a congenial reception in the flippancy and literary triflings of Parisian society, and particularly branded Female pedantry as the strongest feature in the character of French pretension. The name and something of its character diverged from France to England, and for a while marked the vanity of the worthless advances in literature which were so highly vaunted among our feminine coteries. The propriety of the appellation and its application are, at length, passing into desuetude, for it is apparent to all that in every circle, attainments in literature can and are accomplished by ladies with no deterioration of female importance or propriety: it is in England, more than in any other, that knowledge asserts her right of general dominion, and majestically maintains the position, that, if she be the sustaining energy of one sex, she also contributes to the lighter charm, the graceful adornment of the other.

The verse in the old nursery song, a portion of that commencing with One-ery, two-ery, Ziccary zan—

Hinx Minx! now the witch winks,
The fat begins to fry;
There's nobody at home but jumping Joan,
And Father, and Mother, and I.

Has a classical parallel in Ovid, Fast. IV. 543.

Tota domus læta est, hoc est materque, paterque
Nataque; tres illi tota fuere domus.
Mox epulas ponunt, liquefacta coagula lacti.

F. E. G.

PROPOSED INTERCHANGE OF DUPLICATE COINS.

I have good reason to know that Current Notes is in the hands of most Coin Collectors, therefore, I wish to make a proposition in its pages, if the Editor will lend his aid, which if put in practice will be a great boon to us of the Numismatic Fraternity. Coin Collectors of whatever class and extent their collections are, must frequently accumulate duplicates of which, from the circumstances of their position, that which is useless to one man is eagerly sought by another; thus, if Collectors knew each others' names, and to what class their attention was directed, Manuscript lists of their duplicate specimens might be circulated, and if the Editor would receive and publish a list of Collectors' Names, it would be very desirable.

Oxon, March 4. L. A. W.

The Editor's agency is at the service of L. A. W., or of any other collector.

I would feel greatly obliged if any of your numerous readers of Current Notes would give me an explanation of the following Medal.

Obverse — Three figures in armour, the centre one who is crowned with flowers or leaves, is joining the hands of the other two. Legend—IVNGE TRVCES DEXTRAS. 1579.

Reverse — A fruit tree by the side of a lake, upon which the four winds are blowing; on the agitated water, a single figure is seen in the distance. Legend—VEL CONTRA FORTIOR ITO.

Leith, March 4. W. K. Currie.

National Gallery. The Krüger Collection of sixty-four early German paintings, formerly at Minden, were in 1854, purchased for the National Gallery, in no way authorised by the Trustees, for 2800*l.*, and the expenses of conveyance hither were 116*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*, in all 2916*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* The most tolerable of these, seventeen in number, after considerable repairs and redecorations, were in October in that year, placed in the room on the left, at the head of the staircase, and have created for it, the appellation of 'the Chamber of Horrors.' Ten of these pictures have been sent to Ireland, or elsewhere; and the remaining thirty-seven were sold, Feb. 14, by Messrs. Christie and Manson, for 249*l.* 8*s.*, at prices varying from twelve shillings to an extreme sum of twenty-two pounds. Deducting the cost of the reparation to those now in the Gallery, and the charges of sale, the seventeen remaining, which advance nothing preceptory in art, cost *severally* the frightful sum of one hundred and sixty pounds.

Lady and Spaniels. In the fine large print, after Landseer, so entitled, I presume the lady represents some one,—is it known who?

Chichester, March 16. H. H.

Miss Power, niece of the late Margaret Countess of Blessington.

KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM.

The military brotherhood or order of the Knights Hospitallers was founded by Gerard Tour, who was born at Martigues in Provence. After the capture of Jerusalem, he in 1099, established in that city a house of refuge, as an asylum to pilgrims coming from all parts of the Christian world to visit the Holy Places. Raymond Dupuy succeeded Gerard as Grand Master of the Order, and he decided that the brotherhood should in future become military as well as hospitaller, and that it should defend by arms the Christians against the infidels. The Order thenceforth assumed the title of Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, where they continued till Saladin, in 1188, obtaining possession of Palestine, the Knights quitted Jerusalem to establish themselves at Acre, and subsequently at Rhodes, till 1530, when on Charles the Fifth giving to them the island of Malta, they proceeded thither. The French nation having since the crusades constantly assumed to represent in the East the military spirit of the West, and to be in that country the most pious and most stedfast supporter of the interests of the Latin Church, the French Government has long coveted the possession of the ruins of the Knights' establishment at Jerusalem, a desire that has at length been gratified. The Sultan, who had already presented to the Emperor Napoleon the Church of the Nativity at Jerusalem, has in order to render the gift more complete and acceptable, also given to him the old palace of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, which is annexed to St. Peter's prison. The Greeks had also solicited for the same building, but the ruins have been surrendered to France in compliment to her considering herself as the representative of Catholic interests in the East.

GELIDUS THE PHILOSOPHER. Current Notes well maintains its archæological and literary character, and the paper in the last in reference to 'the Rambler' and 'the Adventurer' is replete with interest. I have long been an admirer of 'the Rambler,' in which, in No. 24, there is a character of Gelidus the Philosopher, a man of great penetration and deep researches; had Dr. Johnson any known person in view in the personation, or is it, as possibly it is, simply one of fiction?

Gloucester, March 3. P. H.

Gelidus the Philosopher was a real character: the Rev. John Coulson; he took his degree of A. M., April 12, 1746, and was subsequently a senior Fellow of University College. In appearance and habit, he resembled Dr. Johnson, and was considered in his time as an Oxford character. Mr. and Mrs. Thrale, with Dr. Johnson, visited Oxford, Sept. 22, 1774, and the great lexicographer, in his journal, notices on the 23rd, the visit of Mr. Thrale and himself to Mr. Coulson; and that on the 24th, they both, with Mrs. Thrale, and her daughter then ten years old, afterward Lady Keith; dined with him. After this visit, Dr. Johnson told Mrs. Thrale, that Mr. Coulson was the man designated in the Rambler, under the name of Gelidus the Philosopher.

KIT-CAT CLUB.—In 1821, was published a folio volume, entitled Memoirs of the celebrated Persons composing the Kit-Cat Club, with forty-eight Portraits, engraved from the original Paintings of Sir Godfrey Kneller. I possess this book, and beg to refer to the just castigation it deserved in the Quarterly Review, March 1822, pp. 425-437, where it is denounced as 'one of the most blundering pieces of patch-work that the scissors of a hackney editor ever produced.' No hint is there given as to who was 'the anonymous personage who produced this astonishing work,' and though I have made many enquiries as to the name of the party, I have been unsuccessful, yet a query in Current Notes might I am told elicit an answer. May I ask if any reader can furnish me with the requisite information as to who was the editor, or compiler of the volume in question.

St. Ann's Street, Manchester. H.

The editor, or compiler, which our Correspondent pleases, was James Caulfield. The production of the Kit-Cat Club was one of the many speculations of the late Mr. Charles Walker, for whom Caulfield also edited the Remarkable Characters, to which and to the six volume edition of Granger's Biographical History of England, the same critical severity may be fairly applied. To Caulfield's baneful attachment to gin may be attributed a long course of erratic conduct. To fix him to any literary labour, it was requisite to entrap him, and lock him up in a room, with the main essential, a pint or two of his beloved nectar, and books for his reference. Eventually, one night, returning homeward in his usual besotted condition, while attempting to step from the road to the pavement, he fell, and the knee-pan coming in contact with the curb-stone, it was so miserably displaced, that he was taken in great pain to the Hospital, where he died.

NEW ANECDOTES OF PETER PINDAR.

The recently published Memoir of William Cookworthy, a minister among the 'drab-coloured Christians, written by his grandson, Mr. George Harrison, barrister, contains some amusing incidents relative to Dr. Wolcot, not hitherto known beyond the pale of the Quaker's family. Cookworthy was a druggist in Nut-street, Plymouth, who during the spring and summer months emancipated his family of grown up daughters from the confinement and dirt of 'a narrow street in a sea-port town,' by the enjoyment of a country lodging at Fleet, the family seat of the Bulteels, near Sequer's bridge, on the road from Plymouth to Modbury, abounding with charms of wild flowers, hedge-rows, and scenery, some of the loveliest, even in 'the lovely county of Devon.' Mr. Harrison relates—

On one occasion, the first of the family who went to Fleet for the season, were my aunt Hobson, then a widow; her daughter, and my mother. They took with them the maid servant, Molly King, and some cold provisions for a beginning; and were also accompanied by Wolcot. Having arrived at a rather early hour, they were bent on a ramble before dinner. Nothing, however, could persuade Wolcot to go with them, and

after bantering him to no purpose on his laziness, they were forced to start without a squire, leaving the servant to unpack in their absence, and make ready against their return. After some hours pleasurably passed in the woods, they found, on reaching the house, all their food in confusion, scarcely fit to be eaten, and the servant in great dismay. She said Mr. Wolcot would pull it about, and eat, in spite of all her endeavours to prevent him,—that he had then gone away laughing, and had left a piece of paper for them. On this paper they found written—

Folks that are lean, may hop like fleas,
And travel wheresoe'er they please;
But I who am as big 's a tun,
Must find it hard to walk or run;
I therefore have composed this card,
To say, that I have labour'd hard
To eat the beef, and to devour
The pie, which was confounded sour;
And that I'm gone to 'scape a rattling
From Sukey and the widow Wadling.

In voice, in look, in person, and in similarity of character, John Wolcot was better qualified, perhaps, than any other man of his day to personate Falstaff. Many a time he has set my grandfather's table in a roar with his readings of Shakespeare's plays of Henry the Fourth, and the Merry Wives of Windsor. They were not lost upon his host; although, when Peter was sometimes pushing his jokes before the females a little too far, he would check himself on my grandfather's approach, with the exclamation—'Hullo! here comes Will Swedenborg.'

Peter's tale of the Pilgrim and the Peas, ending—

To walk a little more at ease,
I took the liberty to boil my peas,

fared, like his other witticisms, which were sure to be retorted on him, whenever there was fair opportunity. He had presented to him a couple of ducks, and leading a sort of make-shift life, was at his wit's end how to secure the good eating at the least possible expense of cookery. He bethought him, at last, of sending them to the bake-house. This was enough for my aunt Hobson, who the next time she met him, accosted him with—'So, Mr. Jack, I hear you took the liberty to bake your ducks!'

People have been surprised that a man of Wolcot's coarse, indolent, and selfish habits should have ever found a seat at my grandfather's table; but, in the first place, he had been bred a medical man; and this was, probably, his passport to the Chemist and Druggist. He had besides a fund of humour, and was stored with diverting tales about the Cornish and Devonshire common folks, who were wont to call him 'Maister Ould Cat,' and gaped with delight and wonder at his account of a cherub, which he asserted to have caught, tamed, and retained in a cage in Jamaica, when after having been ordained by the Bishop of London, he went thither in the train of Sir Henry Trelawny, the newly appointed governor, in the double capacity of 'body-curer' and 'soul-curer.'

Wherever he visited, such tales found ready listeners, nor was William Cookworthy the man to form an exception. He was the exception, indeed, in the rule,

Noscitur à socio, qui non dignoscitur ex se.*

Like his Divine Master, he could be 'the friend of publicans and sinners,' not to be degraded to their level, but to raise in them a respect for virtue. He was, moreover, well able to give Peter a Rowland for his Oliver, and was to a certainty the person who furnished him with the original incident for Wolcot's tale of the Country Bumpkin and the Razor-seller, beginning—

A fellow in a market town,
Most musical, cried razors up and down.

Wolcot had also a taste for the fine arts, and was the first to notice Opie. He brought him to Nut-street, and set him to paint the portrait of my grandfather, which was admitted to be the best likeness of him. It was not his speaking likeness, which would have been all life and fire: it is his thinking likeness, which is very different; and yet when the rays of the setting sun shed their softened light over the features, as they do for several days, twice in the year, at a late and early period, where the portrait hangs in my drawing room, it is difficult to believe the countenance to be any but that of a living man in the calm repose of a mighty mind.

William Cookworthy died October 17, 1780.

BALLOON EXHIBITION BILL.

The following announcement appeared during the first week in August, 1786, and is interesting from the early attention then made to the direction of Balloons, which later experience has confirmed to be utterly futile.

Tuffnell Park Road. CHARLES GREEN, Aeronaut.

NEW FISH BALLOON AT THE PANTHEON.

READY for Ascension, and to be drawn in the Air by live Eagles. It is now universally admitted, that every Attempt to steer Balloons in the Air, by any Power of Mechanism, will always prove fruitless, as there is no Possibility of finding a Point d'Appui, or Point of Resistance. Mr. Uncles, thoroughly convinced of its Truth, is, nevertheless ambitious, as an Englishman, of meriting the Name of the FIRST AERIAL CHARIOTEER. Instead, therefore, of making Use of ineffectual Sails, Oars, or Wings, he is determined to employ living Force to combat the Wind, and guide himself through the Regions of the Sky. With this Intention, he has just finished a vast Fish-formed Balloon, to which is suspended a splendid triumphal Car elegantly ornamented, with projecting Accommodations for four harnessed Eagles, perfectly tame, and capable of flying in every Direction, at their Master's Will. Mr. Uncles, who also flatters himself to render his Balloon stationary, intends to make his grand Ascension in it after Easter. Till then, this new and magnificent Spectacle will be exhibited in the grand Saloon of the Pantheon, every Day, Sundays excepted, from Ten to Six o'Clock.

Admittance One Shilling only.

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* He who has no character of his own, bears that of the company which he keeps.

ANCIENT SILVER DISH OR SALVER.

Amongst the church plate at Wallsend, in Northumberland, is an exquisitely wrought silver salver, now for protection fastened on a plate of iron. It is 10⅛ inches in diameter. In the centre of the salver which is sunk about half an inch there is no device, but round it is engraved a simple but elegant wreath of flowers and leaves tied at the top and bottom with knots of riband. On the other rim or border which is 2⅜ inches in diameter are four oblong medallions or compartments containing figures in basso relievo, representing the four Seasons, all so disposed as to be seen upright at one view without needing to turn the salver. The spaces between these compartments are filled with rich tracery of large flowers.

At the top of the salver, Spring is represented by the figure of a boy, crowned with roses, reclining, with the left hand resting on a basket of roses by his side, and holding in the right hand, which is crossed over his breast, a bunch of the same flowers. The back-ground is filled up with a landscape of trees, etc., beautifully executed but much worn.

Summer, on the right hand of the salver, is represented by the upright figure of a boy, crowned with ears of corn, sitting on a bank overshadowed by the boughs of a tree, having a sheaf of corn in his left arm, and a sickle in his right hand.

Autumn, at the bottom of the salver, is represented by a boy, crowned with vine leaves and grapes, with his right hand raised to his head and his left hand resting on fruit. Here, as in the opposite compartment, is a landscape with trunks of trees in the fore ground.

Winter, at the right hand side of the salver, is represented by the upright figure of a boy, with a curious old fashioned cap on his head, sitting and warming his hands at a fire, the flames of which ascend from the ground and curl up in front of him, Behind him are the boughs of a leafless tree.

At the top of the dish is the old silver mark, a three towered castle, and I.H. surmounted by a star.

St. Alban's Parsonage, March 4. E. H. A.

DERBYSHIRE TRADESMEN'S TOKENS.

An interesting addition to the County History of Derbyshire, has this month emanated under the title of 'The Tradesmen's Tokens of the Seventeenth Century, of Derbyshire.' Mr. W. H. Brockett, of Gateshead upon Tyne, has most laudably drawn up this list from the Notices extant in the Collections of Thomas Bateman, Esq., of Loneberdale House, to whom the work is dedicated; Mr. William Boyne, F.S.A.; Mr. Llewellyn Jewett, F.S.A., and the Bodleian Library, Oxford. The rarity of many of these specimens is so great, that one only is known, hence the reference to so many depositories, to eke out anything like a continued series. The descriptive notes are highly illustrative of families and persons who issued them, and the more attractive are accompanied by wood-cuts of truthful effect.

HERO OF BUTLER'S HUDIBRAS.

The name of Sir Samuel Rolle of Heanton Sackville, in the parish of Petrockstow, Devon; elder brother of Henry Rolle, Chief Justice of the Upper Bench under the Commonwealth, frequently occurs in the history and records of the period as an active promoter of the Parliament cause. The elder D'Israeli, in his Curiosities of Literature, second series, suggests that this worthy knight, and not Sir Samuel Luke, as commonly supposed, was the original of Butler's Hudibras. The following are D'Israeli's words—When Butler wrote his Hudibras, one Colonel Rolle, a Devonshire man, lodged with him, and was exactly like his description of the Knight; whence it is highly probable, that it was this gentleman and not Sir Samuel Luke, whose person he had in his eye. The reason he gave for calling his poem, Hudibras, was, because the name of the old tutelar saint of Devonshire, was Hugh de Bras.

Is there any foundation for this passage, beyond what appears in the above extract? and was the tutelar saint of Devonshire ever known in that county?

March 14. EDWARD F. RIMBAULT.

CHURCH BELL INSCRIPTIONS.

In the tower of Gulval church are three bells, bearing inscriptions: CAROLUS II. DEI GRATIA. The north one is dated 1640, with this distich—

Ile ring always
My Makers prayes.

The south bell is dated 1675.

Penzance, March 5. W.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL, A DRAMATIST.

The following letter addressed to R. W. Elliston, when lessee of Drury Lane Theatre, will possibly be interesting to many readers of Current Notes, who may not be aware his Lordship has any claim to be considered as a dramatist. The autograph is now before me.

March 12. H.

Hastings, Nov. 4, 1822.

Sir,—You will have perceived by an advertisement in the papers, that I am going to publish a play called *Don Carlos*. Having no conception of the proper method of adapting a play for the stage, I did not offer it to the Theatres, but if upon perusal, it should appear to you fit for this purpose, I should naturally prefer that it should be performed by the admirable Company at Drury Lane, rather than any other. If you have any wish to see it, a copy shall be sent to you, as soon as it is printed off. If it were to be acted, it must be, with considerable curtailments, and also, must profess to be from the published edition. Of course if you should judge it unfit for acting I should be neither surprised nor disappointed. You will have the goodness not to communicate this letter to any one.

I have the honour to be,
Your obed. servant,
J. RUSSELL.

Nothing but reading will teach spelling.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXVI.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [APRIL, 1857.

The Charade, by an eminent dignitary of the Church, given in your last number, p. 17, is said to be by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Oxford; but as I do not state the fact on my own knowledge, I cannot vouch for the accuracy of the report.

I sit here on a rock, whilst I'm raising the wind,
When the storm is abated, I'm gentle and kind;
I have kings at my feet, who await but my nod,
To kneel in the dust, on the ground where I trod;
I am seen by the world, yet am known but to few;
The Gentiles detest me, I'm Pork to the Jew.
I never have pass'd but one night in the dark,
And that was with Noah alone, in the ark;
My weight is three pounds, my length is a mile;
And, when I'm discover'd, you'll say, with a smile,
My first and my last are the best in the Isle.

The solution is CHRIST CHURCH. I send you a version in rhyme, as requested.

Christ on a rock His Church did found,
And though the tempests roar,
Firm and Secure, it smiles around,
Till Time shall be no more.

Gentle and kind the Saviour is,
As those who love Him know;
He shields from harm the truly His,
But quells the stubborn foe.*

Whene'er His Spirit from on high,
Scatters the clouds of lust,
Kings lay their crowns and sceptres by,
And worship in the dust.

Gentile and Jew detest the light,
Because their deeds are dark;
The Church once pass'd a dreary night,
Imprison'd in the Ark.

Of Jewish shekels three times ten
Three pounds, in counting, gave;
The Lord of Angels and of Men
Was valued as a slave.

The noble Christ Church Walk extends
A mile exact in length;
Long may it flourish! graced by Friends
Rejoicing in its strength!

Christ is the best, His Church the best,
In this, or any Isle;
And that a Bishop stands confest,
Must not provoke a smile.

Prelates must sometimes roam at large,
And lighter game pursue;
And, if a Bishop writes a Charge,
Why not a Riddle too?

Newport, Essex, April 6. WILLIAM HILDYARD.

In reference to Mr. Lowe's letter in Current Notes, p. 17, containing a Charade, and inviting a solution of it, I applied to a friend, and now send you one, in rhyme, which I received in answer to my application.

Firm on the Rock of Christ that lowly sprung,
The Church, invokes the Spirit's fiery tongue,*
Whose gracious breathings rose but to control
The storm and struggle in the sinner's soul.
Haply ere long his carnal conflicts cease,
And the storm sinks in faith and gentle peace,
Kings own its potent sway, and humbly bow
The golden diadem upon their brow.
Its saving voice with mercy speeds to all,
But ah! how few to quicken at its call.
Gentiles, the favour'd little flock detest,
And Abraham's children spit upon their nest.
Creation's work, but only once, has night
Curtain'd with darken'd clouds its saving light,
What time the Ark majestically rode
Unscathed upon the desolating flood.
The silver weighed for it, in all its strength,
For scarce three pounds,† were counted, while its length
Traced in the Prophet's view with measured reed,
Squared just a mile,‡ as Rabbins are agreed.
And now I feel entitled well to smile,
Since CHRIST CHURCH has the palm of all our Isle.

The charade, which involves a compliment to Christ Church College, Oxford, is said to have been the composition of a Bishop of Worcester; and the solution is attributed to a Bishop of Salisbury.

Kensington, April 11. R. C. KIDD.

BORTISM.—A new sect, which founds its creed on the revelations of speaking tables, has recently been instituted at Geneva, and from the name of its founder, M. Bort, derives the appellation of Bortism. The sect pretends to revelations from various angels and from the Saviour himself, speaking by the table and by the mouth of M. Bort. These revelations have been published at Lausanne. What next?

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* Parcere subjectis, et debellare superbos.

* The rushing mighty wind.—Acts ii. 2.

† The weight of thirty pieces of silver was about three pounds.—Zechariah, xi. 12 and 13: and Matthew xxvi. 15.

‡ The square of the Temple of the New Jerusalem was two thousand roods, equal to one mile.—Ezekiel xlii. 20.

PARKHURST.—On the title page of a copy of the Nuremburg Chronicle, or more correctly, 'Liber Chronicarum,' compiled by Hartman Schedel, and printed at Nuremburg, by Anthony Koburger, in 1493, large folio, is the following inscription and quatrain in the autograph of John Parkhurst, elected bishop of Norwich, April 13, 1560.

Johannis Parcusti Epī Nordovicicensis ad
Dm̄ Guliellm̄ Nauntonum Τετραστικον.

Si Naumtone Tuos me inter numerabilis Amicos,
Claresces Scriptis forsitan ipse meis.
Nunc Tua fama Satis clara est, Sed clarior olim
Fiet, Fordescat ni mea Musa Tibi.

These are followed by the autograph of William Naunton, of whose future the lines are predictive.

Bp. Parkhurst, whose aptitude for Latin verses was highly creditable to him, published a volume which he entitled Juvenile Epigrams, 1573. He died Feb. 2, 1575.

BLUE STOCKINGS.—Myself and others must be greatly obliged for the elucidation of the term 'Blue Stockings,' inserted in the last number of Current Notes, p. 21. What induced my obtruding the query was the fact that the following statement, while it had all the appearance of truth, seemed to be in some manner questionable.

Many persons are no doubt curious to know the origin of the name *Blue Stocking Club;* and from the 'Memoirs of Mrs. Carter,' which have been lately published, we are enabled to present them with the following explanation: it appears that the celebrated Mrs. Montague used to have parties of literary persons at her house, concerning which the author of the Memoirs says, "to these parties it was not difficult for any person of character to be introduced. There was no ceremony, no cards, and no supper. Even dress was so little regarded, that a foreign gentleman, who was to go there with an acquaintance, was told in jest that it was so little necessary, that he might appear there, if he pleased, *in blue stockings.* This he understood in the literal sense; and when he spoke of it in French, called it the *Bas Blue Meeting;* this was the origin of the ludicrous appellation the Blue Stocking Club, since given to these meetings, and so much talked of.

Belgrave Square, April 2. W.

LADY AND SPANIELS.—In your last number, p. 21, you state that Miss Power is the lady represented in this pleasing engraving. May I take the liberty of enquiring the authority for this statement? The Hon. Mrs. Norton has been named, and also Lady Blanche Egerton, and they who compare 'the Lady with the Spaniels' with the fish-girl in 'Bolton Abbey,' in the absence of authentic information will be inclined towards the last named Lady.

April 4. CIVIS ROMANUS.

Miss Power is the Lady represented, reference to Mr. McLean, the publisher, would possibly convince Civis Romanus of his error.

TOUCHING FOR THE KING'S EVIL.

In addition to the papers printed in Current Notes in reference to the Royal practice of touching diseased persons, I forward a Proclamation issued at the close of King Charles the Second's reign. I possess the original broadside which, I am assured, is very rare.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

At the Court at Whitehall,
The Ninth of January, 1683.

Whereas by the Grace and Blessing of God, the Kings and Queens of this realm by many ages past have had the happiness by their Sacred Touch and Invocation of the name of God, to cure those who are afflicted with the disease called the King's Evil, and His Majesty in no less measure than any of his Royal Predecessors having had good success therein, and in his most gracious and pious disposition being as ready and willing as any King or Queen of this realm ever was, in any thing to relieve the distresses and necessities of his good subjects, Yet in his Princely wisdom foreseeing that in this (as in all other things) Order is to be observed, and fit times are necessary to be appointed for the performing of this great work of Charity, His Majesty was therefore this day pleased to declare in Council His Royal Will and Pleasure to be,

That, in regard heretofore the usual times of presenting such persons have been prefixed by His Royal Predecessors; the times of Publick Healing shall from hence forth be from the Feast of All Saints, commonly called Alhallon-tide, till a week before Christmas; and after Christmas until the first day of March, and then to cease till the Passion Week, being times most convenient both for the temperature of the season, and in respect of Contagion, which may happen in this near access to His Majesty's Sacred Person. And when His Majesty shall at any time think fit to go any progress, He will be pleased to appoint such other Times for Healing as shall be most convenient, and His Majesty doth hereby accordingly Order and Command,

That from the time of publishing this His Majesty's Order, none presume to repair to His Majesties Court to be healed of the said Disease, but only at, or within the times for that purpose hereby appointed as aforesaid, and His Majesty was further pleased to order,

That all such as hereafter shall come or repair to the Court for this purpose, shall bring with them Certificates under the Hands and Seals of the Parson, Vicar or Ministers, and of both or one of the Churchwardens of the respective parishes where they dwell, and from whence they come, testifying according to the truth, that they have not at any time before been touched by His Majesty, to the intent to be healed of that disease.

And all Ministers and Churchwardens are hereby required to be very careful to examine into the truth, before they give such certificates, and also to keep a Register of all Certificates they shall from time to time give; and to the end that all His Majesties loving subjects may the better take knowledge of this His Ma-

jesties Command, His Majesty was pleased to direct that this His Order be read publicly in all Parish Churches, and then be affixt to some conspicuous place there, And that to that end, the same be printed, and a convenient number of copies sent to the Most Reverend Fathers in God, the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Lord Archbishop of York, who are to take care that the same be distributed to all parishes within their respective Provinces.

PHI. LLOYD.

London: Printed by the Assigns of John Bill deceased; and by Henry Hills and Thomas Newcomb Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty, 1683.

NOTES RELATIVE TO THE HEBER FAMILY.

It is not generally known that one of the Heber family was a century since, a book and printseller.

Richard Heber, Esq., the proprietor of Marton Hall, in Craven, Yorkshire, and of Hodnet Hall, in Shropshire, had a brother, Reginald, who was well known for his fondness for Field sports and the Turf. Mr. John Cheny, who in 1727 first projected and commenced the publication of the Racing Calendar, died in 1751, when Reginald Heber in conjunction with Thomas Butler, as book and printseller, in Pall Mall, near St. James' Street, continued it, and among the advertisements at the end of the Racing Calendar, 1751, Reginald Heber, as the author and publisher, is described as then living in Cold Bath Square, Clerkenwell. In 1753, he was living in Fullwood's Rents, Holborn, and dealing in Sporting Prints and Books, and also in York River Tobacco. The volume for 1754, contains 'a Notice' to his subscribers, that at a fire at his printer's, Edward Owen, in Hand Court, Holborn, all the printing materials, as well as his books were destroyed.

In 1757, he had removed to Holborn Bars, and added to his former business, 'the sale of the Finest Durham Flour of Mustard.' A long advertisement of Sporting Prints is appended to the volume for 1758, and in addition to the Mustard, he added 'Various Snuffs, and Right Woodstock Gloves.'

As the Racing Calendar in 1769 passed into other hands, it is presumed Reginald Heber was then deceased.

Richard Heber, Esq., his brother; by his first wife became possessed of some shares in Elliott's Brewery, Pimlico, and by this marriage was the father, in 1773, of Richard Heber, M.P., and the most distinguished bibliomaniac of the early part of this century. Inheriting his mother's property in the brewhouse, he, when in London, resided in a house in the brewhouse yard, where he died in 1835. Reginald Heber the no less celebrated preacher at Lincoln's Inn, and subsequently bishop of Calcutta; and also Thomas Heber, were sons by a second marriage, but the bishop was the only married son, and dying without issue male, the name of Heber of Marton and Hodnet is extinct.

April 8. R. T.

INEDITED LETTER OF THOMAS BEWICK.

The following letter will doubtless be read by many collectors of Bewick's publications with peculiar interest from the information it conveys in reference to the originality of the several portraits which were painted of him. The portrait by Ranson,* to whom the letter was addressed, 31, Judd Place West, New Road, and to which it more particularly relates, was engraved by subscription, and published in January, 1816. It was deemed the best portrait of Bewick which had then been executed; subsequently, the plate falling into the hands of a local bookseller, he reduced it to an octavo size, and appropriated it as a frontispiece to Bewick's works—both are now rarely met with.

Newcastle, Dec. 12, 1815.

Dear Sir,—I have long wished to hear from you, and would have written to you long since if I could have got your address, so that your letter per favour of Mr. Heaton gave me great pleasure, and has gratified me in both these respects.

I dare say most of our booksellers have Proposals in their shops—I know Finlay has, and also, I believe, both Bell on the Quay, and Miller; therefore if you send some of the prints to them as soon as you can, it will be what I think ought to be first done, before they are advertised.

If I recollect right, the proposals or prospectuses mentioned that the print would be of a certain size, so many inches in breadth and so many in height, I have forgot how many; but if the plate is done the size named, the prints cannot suit to bind up in any of my publications, therefore I am quite at a loss to know how this is, and also what Longman's people can do with it if it is too large for the books.

Sometime ago I expressed to Mr. Nicholson my fears that the large print would not sell to pay you, and I also named this to him in July last, when I met with him at Chillingham. I also told him several other particulars respecting this business, and my reasons for thinking it would not pay you at so high a price without it was engraved so as to be called an *inimitable engraving*.

While we were at Chillingham, Mr. Nicholson painted another likeness of me in water colours of a smaller size, but for what purpose I know not. Whether Mr. Nicholson may have informed you of Mr. Summer-

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* Thomas Fryer Ranson, born at Sunderland in 1784, was apprenticed to J. A. Kidd, engraver, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. He then came to London, and in 1814, was awarded by the Society of Arts their silver medal for excellence in engraving a portrait of Sir Thomas Gresham. In 1818, he underwent a prosecution by the Bank of England authorities for holding a one pound note, which they alleged to be a forgery, but which was subsequently proved to be genuine. In 1821 he received the Society of Arts' gold medal, for his line engraving of a portrait of the Duke of Northumberland; and, in 1822, their gold medal, for his admirable engraving from Wilkie's picture, Duncan Gray.

field's intention of engraving my portrait, as a Frontispiece to my books, I do not know, as I forgot to ask him, but lest he may not have told you, I think it right to inform you how this happened.

Some few years ago, while Mr. Summerfield was in Newcastle, upon seeing my likeness done by Murphy, he obtained a promise from me that I would lend it to him for the purpose of his making an engraving from it for my books. From that time untill, I think, about last Christmas, I never heard a word about Mr. Summerfield, and supposed, from the ill state of health he was in, it was likely he might be dead—he however, put me in mind of my promise, and I sent him the picture, but with some reluctance—I was not easy under the apprehension that it might hurt the sale of your print, notwithstanding their being so different in size. I have, however, my fears that poor Mr. Summerfield is not doing well, so it has been hinted to me, and also, that I would never see my much valued portrait again—it was presented to my wife, and she is very uneasy about it. His last address, given to me in April last, was Mr. John Summerfield, No. 15, Allerton Street, Hoxton New Town. I would be obliged to you if you could make it convenient to call upon him, and enquire what he is doing, and when I may expect he will return the portrait. You will at the same time see, and perhaps know, what he has done to the portrait, or whether he intends doing it or not?*

A succession of *odd things* has happened about this portrait of mine, which I cannot help wondering at, and I have more to relate to you respecting it, than is *altogether agreeable*, especially as it relates to my much esteemed young friend Mr. Nicholson,† for not long after he so kindly painted the grand portrait, as I think it, I found some gentlemen in Newcastle, my warm friends, *did not like it*, some of them went so far as to call it an outrageous likeness; but before I knew this, I was particularly requested, and consented to sit again to Mr. Ramsay here, and I supposed at the time that it was meant as a private portrait, and I dare say, at the time, it was meant for that only; it has however given such thorough satisfaction that these friends now talk of having it excellently engraved. I have mentioned to some of them how you were situated, and strenuously recommended to them that you should do it. At this they hesitate, and wish to see your execution of the plate you have in hands, before they determine upon any thing. Mr. Ramsay recommends its being done in the stippled manner, and shews several portraits done from his paintings in that way, and they certainly are done very correctly, very like the paintings—I think he says they are done by Turner. I think Mr. Ramsay's portraits, one and all, are the best that ever were done; he gives the character as well as the likeness so correctly, that they look the personation, they ought indeed not to be called likenesses but facsimiles.‡ Mr. Ramsay is also a very agreeable, kind, good man, as well as a first rate painter.

I am sorry to hear you remark that you have not been fortunate in your former speculations—I hope the tide will turn in your favour, and that times will brighten upon you. Since you left Newcastle, I could often have got you jobs, but I did not know that you would or could do them, and I have always been at a loss for your address, this your father from time to time has promised to give me, but never did so. At present work is very slack in Newcastle, while at the same time Engraving shops increase. I keep myself extremely busy at work upon our intended new publication of the Fables of Æsop and others, but I fear it may be a year before I can get fairly to press with it.§

I dare say I have tired out your patience, and shall conclude by wishing you the compliments of the season, and best wishes for your success.

I am, dear sir, yours, &c,

THOMAS BEWICK.

* The portrait, after Murphy, engraved and published by John Summerfield, in the first state of the plate, is dated Nov. 1, 1815; in the second, published by T. McLean, Sackville Street, Piccadilly, Feb. 1, 1816. In either state it rarely occurs. Ed.

† Isaac Nicholson, eminent as a wood cutter, was one of Thomas Bewick's most talented apprentices. He died, aged 59, Oct. 28, 1848. Ed.

‡ The portrait of himself had all the distinctness which Bewick so warmly eulogised as appearing in all Ramsay's portraits. It was engraved by John Burnet, and published by him in October 1817.

§ The Fables of Æsop and others, a volume projected previously to 1795, did not make its appearance till 1818, nor then with the success that was anticipated; and though this work by no means added to Bewick's already well-established reputation, it certainly did not detract from it. The subjects are well drawn and engraved, and evince that his capabilities were not confined solely to the correct delineation of figures. Thomas Bewick died, in his 76th year, at Gateshead, Nov. 8, 1828, and was buried, on the 13th in Ovingham Churchyard.

TRADITION OF THE PIPER OF HAMELIN.

In Nicholson's English Atlas, 1681, it is stated—At Hamelin, an ancient city on the confines of the Dukedom of Brunswic Calemberg, they keep the record of the famous Piper, who in anno 1284, with his pipe and tabret drew the Rats into the river after him; and a year after, with the same musick, drew the Boys of the Town into a cave on the top of a neighbouring Hill, who were never after heard of. In remembrance of this sad accident the Citizens were wont for many years after, as appears by several old deeds and records in that city, to date all their Indentures and Contracts such a year since the departure of their children.

Hamelin, situated at the confluence of the Hamel with the Weser, is a strong town of Lower Saxony, at the extremity of the Duchy of Brunswick, of which it is the key. What are the facts respecting this extraordinary Piper?

Minories, April 8. P.M.

VISCOUNTESS KEITH.

Hester Maria Vicountess Keith, noticed in Current Notes, p. 22; daughter and co-heir of Henry Thrale, of Streatham, in the county of Surrey, married, in 1808, George Keith, who, for various naval exploits, was created, in 1801, Admiral of the Blue, and in 1814, Viscount Keith, with remainder to issue male. He died in 1823; and their only issue, Georgiana Augusta Henrietta, born 1809; married in 1831 the Hon. Augustus John Villiers, second son of George Child Villiers, fifth Earl of Jersey. Thrale, whom Dr. Johnson could not otherwise consider than as his friend and benefactor, died in 1781, and appointed the author of 'the Rambler' as one of his executors, in conjunction with three other persons. Johnson's inaptitude to this duty is fairly and fully described by Sir John Hawkins, in his 'Life of Dr. Samuel Johnson,' a volume most unaccountably neglected. Thrale's brewery in Southwark, now Barclay, Perkins and Co., was then as now, a gigantic concern, and the executors, unable to conduct it with sufficient effect for the interest of the widow and her children, disposed of it for 135,000*l.*, a proceeding in which the Doctor, without hesitation, readily concurred. Soon after Thrale's decease, it was observed Dr. Johnson's visits to Streatham became less and less frequent; he doubtless assumed too much of the Mentor, and too dogmatically imposed an observance of council to which Mrs. Thrale, or her daughters were not inclined, the former more particularly having predilections of her own to gratify, which were exemplified in her not very generally approved marriage with Piozzi; certain it is, the intimacy that had so long continued cooled rapidly, and in his Diary, Dr. Johnson records—

1783, April 5th, I took leave of Mrs. Thrale. I was much moved. I had some explanations with her. She said that she was likewise affected. I commended the Thrales with great good will to God; may my petitions have been heard!

This formal dissolvement of all further intercourse between the Thrales and himself explains the causes which so soon after Thrale's decease induced the Doctor's studiously avoiding all mention of Streatham or of the family, a circumstance that was feelingly yet silently observed by his associates.

Hester Maria Thrale, who at this juncture had passed through her course of teens, married, in her forty-fourth year, Lord Keith, whom she survived.

Viscountess Keith died at her residence, 110, Piccadilly, in her ninety-third year, on Tuesday, 31st ult.

Eaton Place, April 2. Q.

The fine old stately mansion, in Peebles, formerly the residence of the Hay family, Earls of Tweeddale, and lastly the property of the Dukes of Queensberry, has been purchased by Mr. William Chambers of Edinburgh, with a view of annexing adjoining buildings and offices, and fitting them for the purposes of a public reading-room, library, lecture-hall, and gallery of art, —the whole to be presented by him, as a FREE GIFT, to his native town.

PRAISE OF THE HORN-BOOK.

Hail! Antient Book, most Venerable Code!
Learning's first Cradle, and it's last Abode!
The huge unnumber'd Volumes which we see,
By lazy Plagiaries are stol'n from Thee.
Yet future Times, to thy sufficient Store,
Shall ne'er presume to add one Letter more.

Thee! will I sing, in comely Wainscot bound,
And Golden Verge enclosing thee around,
The faithful Horn before, from Age to Age,
Preserving thy invaluable Page.
Behind, thy Patron Saint in Armour shines,
With Sword and Lance, to guard thy sacred lines:
Beneath his Courser's Feet the Dragon lies
Transfix'd; his Blood thy scarlet cover dies.
Th' instructive Handle at the Bottom fix'd,
Lest wrangling Critics shou'd pervert the Text.

Or, if to Ginger-Bread Thou should descend,
And Liquorish Learning to Thy Babes extend;
Or, Sugar'd plane o'erspread with beaten Gold,
Does the sweet Treasure of Thy Letters hold—
Still Thou shalt be my song. Apollo's Choir
I scorn t' invoke; CADMUS my Verse inspire!
'Twas CADMUS, who the first Materials brought
Of all the Learning that has since been taught,
Soon made compleat! for Mortals ne'er shall know
More than contain'd of old the *Christ-Cross-Row.*
What Masters dictate, or what Doctors preach,
Wise Matrons hence e'en to our Children teach.
But as the Name of every Plant and Flow'r,
So common that each Peasant knows its Pow'r;
Physicians in mysterious Cant express,
T' amuse the Patient, and enhance their Fees:
So from the Letters of our Native Tongne,
Put in Greek Scrawls, a Myst'ry too is sprung,
Schools are erected, puzzling Grammars made,
And artful Men strike out a gainful Trade;
Strange Characters adorn the Learned Gate,
And heedless Youth catch at the shining Bait.
The pregnant Boys the noisy Charms declare,
And Tau's, and Delta's,* make their Mothers stare;
Th' uncommon Sounds amaze the Vulgar Ear,
And 'what's Uncommon never costs too dear;'
Yet in all Tongues the HORN-BOOK is the same,
Taught by Grecian Master, or th' English Dame.

But how shall I thy endless Virtues tell,
In which thou dost all other Books excel?
No greasy Thumbs thy spotless Leaf can soil,
Or crooked Dog's-Ears thy smooth Corners spoil;
Or in idle Page doth th' Errata stand,
To show the blunders of the printer's Hand.
No fulsome Dedication here is writ;
Or flatt'ring Verse, to praise the Author's Wit.
The Margin with no tedious Notes is vex'd,
Or Various Readings to confound the Text:
All Parties in thy lit'ral Sense agree—
Thou perfect Centre of Concordancy!

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* The Greek Letters T and Δ.

Search we the Records of an ancient Date,
Or read what modern Histories relate,
They all proclaim what Wonders have been done
By the plain Letters taken as they run.*
Too high the Floods of Passion us'd to roll,
And rend the Roman Youth's impatient Soul;
His hasty Anger furnish'd Scenes of Blood,
And frequent deaths of Worthy Men ensu'd:
In vain were all the weaker Methods try'd,
None could suffice to stem the furious Tide,
Thy Sacred Line he did but once repeat;
That laid the Storm, and cool'd the raging Heat.†

Thy Heav'nly Notes, like Angels Music, cheer
Departing Souls, and sooth the dying Ear.
An Aged Peasant, on his latest bed,
Wish'd for a Friend some godly Book to read;
The pious Grandson Thy known Handle takes,
And thus intent haply this Lecture makes:
Great A, he gravely read,—th' important sound
The scant draped Walls and hollow roof rebound:
Th' expiring Antient raised his drooping Head,
And thank'd his Stars that Hodge had learn'd to read.
Great B, the Younker bawls—O heavenly Breath!
What Ghostly Comforts in the Hour of Death!
What Hopes I feel! Great C, pronounced the boy—
The Grandsire died in extacy of Joy.

Yet in some Lands such Ignorance abounds,
Whole parishes scarce know thy useful Sounds;
Of Essex-Hundreds Fame gives this Report,
But Fame, I ween, says many Things in Sport,
Scarce lives the Man to whom Thou'rt quite unknown,
Tho' few th' Extent of thy vast Empire own.
Whatever Wonders Magic spells can do
On Earth, in Air, in Sea, in Shades below;
What words profound and dark, Mahomet spoke,
When his old Cow an Angel's Figure‡ took;
What strong enchantments sage Canidia knew,
Or Horace sung, fierce Monsters to subdue,
O mighty Book, are all contain'd in You!
All human Arts, and ev'ry Science meet,
Within the limits of thy single Sheet:

From thy vast root all Learning's branches grow,
And all her streams from thy deep Fountain flow.
And lo! while thus thy wonders I indite,
Inspir'd I feel the power of that I write;
The gentler gout his former Rage forgets,
Less frequent now, and less severe the Fits,
Loosen'd the Chains which bound my shackled Feet,
Stiffness and Pain from ev'ry Joint retreat;
Surprizing Strength comes ev'ry Moment on,
I stand, I step, I walk, and now—I run!
Here let me cease, my hobbling numbers stop,
And at thy Handle* hang my Crutches up.

1747. THOMAS TICKLE.

In the recent sale of Mr. Horner's library was a copy of the PRYMER, printed in black letter, 16mo., but without denotation of place, printer's name, or date. The volume was without a general title, but commenced with the Catechism, to which as a head was a sort of half title: no other copy is known, and it is very doubtful whether any general title was printed. Unquestionably, it was the first edition, of Queen Elizabeth's reign, and was therefore printed in 1558. On comparing this with the quarto edition 1559, they differ in various particulars, though both contain the prayers for the Dead. The edition of 1559 does not contain the Catechism, but has amendments of the errors discernible in the smaller copy, which follows more closely the Prymer of 1545, than does that of 1559. Had any one a few years since stated that the Primer of the reign of Elizabeth contained Prayers for the Dead, the assertion would most unequivocally have been denied. sold for seventy pounds.

NEWSPAPERS.—I possess some odd numbers of a small quarto periodical entitled 'the Weekly Packet of Advice from Rome, or the History of Popery,' may I ask if it is known how long this was continued?

Nottingham, April 4. F. H.

Henry Care was the author or editor of the 'Weekly Packet.' It commenced December the 10th, 1678, and ended July 13, 1683. In volumes it is thus divided: Vol. I., Dec. 10th, 1678, to July 4th, 1679, in 31 Nos.—Vol. II., July 11th, 1679, to May 28th, 1680, in 47 Nos.—Vol. III., June 4th, 1680, to Dec. 16, 1681, in 80 Nos.—Vol. IV., Dec. 23rd, 1681, to August 18, 1682, in 35 Nos.—Vol. V., August 25, 1682, to July 13, 1683, in 47 Nos. This last was 'Printed by A. Maxwell and J. Attwood for the Author, H. Care.' The author and his publisher, Langley Curtis, appear to have had some dispute on the termination of the fourth volume, Care changed his printer, and Curtis continued and published a fifth volume on his own account, beginning August 25th, 1682, to April 27, 1683, in 36 Nos. The fact of there being two fifth volumes has not been noticed by any bibliographer.

The 'Weekly Packet from Germany,' another periodical began Sept. 3, 1679, and continued till Feb. 4, 1680; another under the title of 'Weekly Memorials for the Ingenious,' began on Monday, March 20, 1681-2, and No. 50 ended the series, on Monday, January 15, 1683.

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* He that runs may read is an old adage. The prophet Habakkuk, who is said to have lived six hundred years before Christ, writes that he was bidden to-write the vision, and make it plain upon Tables, that he may run that readeth it.—Chap. ii. 2.

So Cowper adopts the same phrase,—

But Truth on which depends our main concern,
That 'tis our shame and misery not to learn,
Shines by the side of ev'ry path we tread
With such a lustre he that runs may read.

Tyrocinium, v. 80.

† These Lines describe the advice given to Augustus, by Athenodorus the Stoick Philosopher, who desired the Emperor neither to say nor do any Thing, till he had first said over the Alphabet, or Letters of the Horn-Book; the strict Observance of this Rule would be the Means to make his Passion fall, and prevent any rash Words or Actions.

‡ See the Chapter "Of the Cow," in the Coran.

* Votiva Tabula.—Hor.

SIR JAMES WARE, THE IRISH HISTORIAN.

From a manuscript volume of arms and pedigrees of the seventeenth century, I made the following extract in reference to the armorial bearings of Sir James Ware, of whom, as a noted literary character, I think it ought to be introduced into Current Notes.

Sir James Ware, son of Sir James Ware, Knt., Auditor-General of Ireland, and M.P. for Mallow, co. Cork, by Mary, daughter of Ambrose Bryden, of Bury St. Edmunds; was born Nov. 26, 1594, and knighted in 1629.

He succeeded, upon the death of his father in 1632, to the office of Auditor-General; and upon the arrival of the Lord Deputy Wentworth in Ireland, Sir James was made a Privy Councillor. He married, firstly, Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob Newman, by whom he had seven sons and four daughters; secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Lord Windsor, and widow of her cousin Andrew Windsor, Esq., by whom there was no issue. The extract refers to and follows the emblasoned coat.

The acheivement above depinct, viz., Two Lions passant *azure*, armed and langued *gules;* a bordure of the second charged with escallops of the first; his Crest, On a wreath of his colours, befitting his dignity, a Dragon's head pierced through with a shiver of a lance, proper, mantled *gules*, doubled *argent;* his Motto—SOLA SALUS SERVIRE DEO; doth properly belong to the Honourable Sir James Ware, Knt., one of his Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Councillors, and Auditor-General of Ireland; his being descended from an honourable, noble, and ancient family of the Wares in England, which flourished in great honour in the time of Roger de Ware, Lord of Isefield, a Baron of Parlement, in the reign of King Edward the First, which said achievement appears to belong to him by divers registers of the year 1632, in which year the certificate of the death of Sir James Ware, Knt., late Auditor-General of this kingdom, father to the above-said Sir James Ware, is recorded, which I certifie under my Hand, and Seal of my Office, the eighteenth day of March, Anno Domini 1645.

WILLIAM ROBARTS, Ulster
King of Arms of all Ireland.

Sir James was interred in the church of St. Werburgh, Dublin, where his father, mother, and wife were also buried.

Lee Road, Blackheath, April 11. J. J. HOWARD.

SCOTTISH WITCH CHARM.

In the Session Registers of Markinch, Fifeshire, is the following entry, containing the words of a witch charm:—

Dec. 31, 1643.—Compeired Janet Broune, and being posed if scho vsed charmes, scho confessed that sho did charme tuo severall persones, viz., James Hullock and Janet Scot, but no mo. The words of the charme ar thes —Our lord furth raid, his foalis foot staid—Our lord doune lighted, his foalis foot righted, saying flesh to flesh, blood to blood, and bone to bone, in our lord is name. Being posed quho learned hir the forsaid charme? ansred, ane man in the paroche of Strathmiglo.

Brechin, April 4. A. J.

NATIONAL GALLERY.—The fine large painting by Paul Veronese, known as 'La Tenda di Dario,' the property of Signor Pisani of Venice; in which Alexander, Darius, and the other personages represented are said to be portraits of members of the Pisani family; has long been under negociation of purchase for the National Gallery, but 15,000*l.* was the price demanded. Recently it was obtained for 14,000*l.*; but no sooner was it known that it had been sold to the British Government, than the ire of the Venetians and the officials was greatly excited. A letter from Venice, of the 9th inst., states that Signor Pisani has been fined by the Civil Lieutenant, 700,000 livres, double the price of the painting, the sale it is alleged having been made without the consent of the Venetian Government. The Venetians affect to be by no means displeased at this act of severity, or at the pecuniary loss imposed upon Signor Pisani, because he had without necessity, but merely through cupidity, deprived Venice and his own family of a well known master-piece. These assertions are open to much doubt.

The painting will occupy one entire side of the Rubens' room in the National Gallery.

LINES TO THE BUDDING ROSE,

Translated from the Latin of

JOHN CASIMIR, KING OF POLAND, 1648-69.

Child of the vernal sky, fair flow'r!
No longer hide thy charming face;
Awake to hope! awake to pow'r!
And emulate the morn-star's grace!

Pale Winter's fled on airy feet,
And all his chilling frosts are o'er;
Haste, then, thy dew distilling sweet—
Haste to unfold thy balmy store.

Warm Zephyr's gales, with am'rous haste,
Wait to attend thee on thy way;
The honied florists long to taste
Thy balmy kisses, as they play.

OLIVER'S DUTCH CROWN.—Reading recently a description of some Commonwealth coins, or perhaps more properly of those struck with the head of the Protector, I find one called 'The Dutch Crown.' I have referred to Mr. Hawkins' Silver Coins of England, but not the slightest mention is there made of such a coin. Will any of your numerous contributors help me to some elucidation of what is purported by 'the Dutch Crown?'

Wendover, April 9. H. B H.

The dies of a crown piece, certainly of the time of the Protector, and of English work, were found in Flanders, by an English Connoisseur, in 1738, and brought to England. Permission was obtained from the Master of the Tower Mint, and, on August 4th of that year, nearly two hundred pieces were struck, in gold and silver, for the cabinets of Collectors. They now rarely occur; one in Mr. Cuff's sale, no. 1281, sold for five pounds.

MONTHS OF THE ROMAN LUNAR YEAR.

Macrobius, Saturnalia I., 13, states that Numa through a superstitious reverence for odd numbers, made the lunar year of the Romans to consist of 355 days; and for the same reason made each of the months, except February, to consist of an odd number of days. Numa in honorem imparis numeri secretum hoc et ante Pythagoram parturiente natura unum adjecit diem quem Januario dedit, ut tam in anno quam in mensibus singulis præter unum Februarium impar numerus servaretur. He then gives the number of days in each month: in March, May, July, October, thirty-one each, in February, twenty-eight, and in each of the rest twenty-nine. From this, it appears to me that by investigating the number of days in each month of the old Roman year, we may arrive at the explanation of the division of the months by Calends, Nones, and Ides, which seems at first sight so arbitrary and puzzling.

That the four months named above had always thirty-one days, and so two days more than the other months of the year, appears from the circumstance that their Nones and Ides were placed two days later than the Nones and Ides of the other months. Their Nones were on the 7th day, their Ides on the 15th. In the remaining months, the Nones were on the 5th, the Ides on the 13th. Even in the other months, to which thirty-one days were assigned in the Julian Calendar, January, August, and December, the Nones continued to be on the 5th; the Ides on the 13th, doubtless, because they used to be so before. Therefore, in the lunar year, or in Numa's Calendar, as it was called, there was in every month an interval of eight days from the Nones to the Ides; and a complete period of sixteen days from the Ides to the end of the month, except that in February this last period wanted one day. The religious year, which the early Romans borrowed from the Etruscans, and which is called the year of Romulus, consisted of 304 days, and was divided into thirty-eight periods of eight days each: and the last days of these periods were marked as public days of peculiar solemnity, see Niebuhr, vol. I. p. 273. The division of the months by Nones, Ides, and Calends, appears to have arisen from the attempt to preserve this ancient division in combination with lunar months and a lunar year. Each month was supposed to contain four periods of eight days; but as this would have made the months too long, the first of the four periods, from the Calends to the Nones was arbitrarily shortened; in March, May, July, and October, by one day, in the rest of the months by three days. Nevertheless, the last day of the first period retained its significant name *Nonæ*, the *ninth* day; that is, according to the Latin idiom, by which both extremes of any period are counted in. This curtailment affords the reason of the solemnity, the account of which is preserved by Macrobius, Saturn I. 15; that the pontiffs, after observing the new Moon, *(Jana Novella)* gave notice to the people on what day the Nones were to be reckoned. They knew the length of the other constant periods without notice.

With respect to the Romulian year which is said to have been divided into ten months, I would utterly reject, as Niebuhr, Vol. I. p. 273, seems to do; the account of Macrobius and Solinus, by which they make out the 304 days by assigning thirty-one days to the four months already named, and thirty days to each of the others. This allotment is inconsistent with a division into eight-day periods. If the religious year were really divided into months, they probably consisted in general of thirty-two days; and then, there must either have been one of not more than sixteen days, or two of twenty-four days each. Plutarch (Numa, c. 18,) says that some months consisted of fewer than twenty days, while some were extended to thirty-five, and others even to more.

I will further observe, that there was a certain symmetry in the mode in which the months of twenty-nine days in the old lunar year, were lengthened out in Julius Cæsar's solar year; which will be best understood by this enumeration—January 31 days; April and June, 30; August, 31; September, and November, 30; December, 31. H. M.

The first Prayer Book, with the Psalter, of King James the First's reign, printed for Robert Barker, 1604, and the Psalmes in Meeter, by Sternhold, Hopkins and others, with apt Notes, Printed for the Company of Stationers, 1604, both bound in one volume folio, were recently sold on the dispersion of Mr. Horner's library. The known copies of this excessively rare edition, are in the Bodleian and Lambeth Palace libraries, and there is a third at Cambridge. Two others are known in private collections; one being in the library of the late Mr. Mendham, who stated that he had experienced more difficulty in procuring this book, than in acquiring any work of the reigns of Edward the Sixth or Elizabeth. No copy has occurred at any of the public sales since attention has been directed to books of this character. Mr. Horner's copy produced one hundred and thirty pounds.

Henry Richter, historical painter, and member of the Old Society of Painters in Water Colours; whose illustrations of Milton, and other works, entitle his memory to the highest respect, died on the 8th inst., at his residence, 104, Lisson Grove North, Marylebone, aged 85.

Flaxman's fine friezes in the front of Covent Garden Theatre, his statue of Comedy, and Rossi's statue of Tragedy, are now being carefully moved by Mr. Burstall, builder, of Castle Street, Long Acre, in order to be replaced in the new building.

L. A. W. is requested to communicate with the Editor.

Errata.—P. 20, col. 1, l. 22, for Newgate, read Newtyle. P. 24, col. 1, l. 10 from bottom, for Notices read Tokens; and in l. 9, for Loneberdale, read Lomberdale.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXVII.] "Takes note of what is done—
By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [MAY, 1857.

XAVIER'S HYMN TRANSLATED BY POPE.

In the volume of Current Notes, 1853, p. 38, is an enquiry referring to Charles Butler's Historical Memoirs, vol. ii. p. 308, where it is asserted that 'Pope translated St. Francis Xavier's celebrated Hymn:

O God! I love thee not to gain
The joys of thy eternal reign.

This was related to the author by the late — Wheble, a member of the Society of Jesus, and a distinguished preacher, who received his information from Mr. Pigot, a member of the same Society, at whose desire the verses were made;' followed by the request of a copy of Pope's translation. In reply to that enquiry I send you a transcript from the 7th volume of the American Museum, a periodical published in Philadelphia in 1790, with the letter which accompanied it, as it contained some personal history of Pope.

New York, March 27. K.

Mr. Carey,—The perusal of a small book lately printed by you has revived an intention, which I have often formed, of communicating to the public an original composition of the celebrated Mr. Pope, with which I became acquainted near forty years ago. I was a student at that time in a foreign college, and had the happiness of often conversing with a most respectable clergyman of the name of Brown, who died some time after, aged about ninety. This venerable man, who had lived in England, as domestic chaplain in the family of the Mr. Caryl, to whom Pope inscribed the Rape of the Lock, in the beginning of that poem, and at whose house he spent much of his time in the early and gay part of his life. I was informed by Mr. Brown, that, seeing the poet often amuse the family with verses of gallantry, he took the liberty one day of requesting him to change the subject of his compositions, and to devote his talents to the translation of the Latin Hymn or Rythmus which I find in the 227th page of the Collection of Prayers and Hymns lately printed by you. The Hymn begins with these words, 'O Deus ego amo te,' etc., and was composed by the famous missionary Francis Xavier, whose apostolical and successful labours in the East, united with his eminent sanctity of life, procured him the title of 'the Apostle of the Indies.'

Mr. Pope appeared to receive this proposition with indifference, but the next morning, when he came down to breakfast, he handed Mr. Brown a paper with the following lines, of which I took a copy, and have since retained them in my memory.

Many other students in the same college have long been in possession of them, as well as myself, and I have often been surprised to find that they had never found a place in any collection of that great poet's works.

Baltimore, January 16, 1790. SENEX.

TRANSLATION.

Thou art my God, sole object of my love,
Not for the hope of endless joys above;
Not for the fear of endless pain below,
Which they who love thee not, must undergo.

For me, and such as me, thou deign'd'st to bear,
An ignominious cross, the nails, the spear:
A thorny crown transpierced thy sacred brow,
While bloody sweats from every member flow.

For me in tortures thou resign'dst thy breath,
Embrac'd* me on the cross, and sav'd me by thy death,
And can these suff'rings fail my heart to move?
What but thyself can now deserve my love?

Such as thou was, and is, thy love to me
Such is, and shall be still my love to thee;
To thee, Redeemer, mercy's sacred spring,
My God, my father, maker, and my king.

ADMONITORY LINES TO THE WAYFARER.

On the fly-leaf of a Bible in one of the bed-rooms of the George Hotel, Chepstow, are inscribed the following verses. I do not remember to have seen them before, but some of your Correspondents may possibly have met with them elsewhere? If original they are, I think, worth preservation in your Notes.

Chepstow, April 27. ROBERT PAPE.

Traveller! where ere on life's dark sea,
Thine ever changing lot is cast;
Think, there's a haven waits for thee,
Secure from ev'ry storm or blast.

Safe and protected thou may'st ride,
Unmindful of the troubled wave;
Since He vouchsafes to be thy guide,
Whose power alone can help or save.

Oh! then in ev'ry hour of need,
Of trial, or of deep despair;
His sacred word of mercy read,
And learn his holy love to share.

Soon, here below thy life shall cease,
And earth behold thy form decay;
Oh! seek then for that lasting peace,
Nor earth, nor hell can take away.

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* It was thus that I copied this line. The construction is inaccurate, but such inaccuracies frequently occurred in the best authors before the publishing of Lowth's Grammar, as may be seen in the Grammar itself.

NOTES RELATIVE TO THE HEBER FAMILY.

Your Correspondent, R. T., p. 27, has fallen into some inaccuracies. He states that Reginald Heber 'well known for his fondness for field sports and the turf, and described as 'living in Cold Bath Square, Clerkenwell, in 1751,' was the brother of Richard Heber, Esq., of Marton and Hodnet, who died in 1766. It is true, that Richard had a brother named Reginald, but he was certainly not a book and print-seller, and we may believe that he spent his life far more usefully than in publishing a Racing Calendar, or devoting himself to the Turf. He was Rector of Chelsea, afterward Co-Rector of Malpas, Cheshire, and succeeded on the death of his elder brother Richard, to the family estates. He was the father of Richard Heber, the Member for Oxford, and by a second wife of Reginald, Bishop of Calcutta; Thomas Cuthbert Heber, and a daughter, Mary, who married the Rev. Charles Cholmondeley.

Another member of the family, also named Reginald, Rector of Marton, died in February, 1799. In an earlier generation we find a Reginald Heber, who died aged 12, the son of Reginald Heber, of Marton, who died in 1715.

No one of these could have been the Reginald of sporting notoriety, but the pedigree contains a collateral branch, giving Reginald, the son of Thomas Heber, of Gargrave; the latter of whom was born, 1695. The son is merely recorded as having died unmarried. Was this last-named Reginald, the book and print-seller in question?

Some of your readers may remember an allusion to Heber's Racing Calendar, in Thomas Warton's Newmarket, published in 1751. The poet there addresses the 'Mimic Patriots,' who —

> Neglect the counsels of a sinking land,
> And know no rostrum, but Newmarket's stand.
>
> * * * *
>
> Who lost to Albion's past and present views,
> Heber, thy Chronicle alone peruse.

R. T. is mistaken in his belief that 'the name of Heber, of Marton and Hodnet is extinct.' It survives in the descendants of the excellent Bishop of Calcutta, the author of the poem entitled Palestine.

May 4. J. H. M.

AN IRISHMAN ABROAD.

An Irishman, named Murphy, born in Down county, of gigantic stature, measuring seven feet, ten and a half inches high in his stockings, is now producing in Vienna probably the same effect on the persons who visit him as the Patagonians did on Magellan's sailors when they first saw them. A middle-sized man can stand with his hat on under the Irish Giant's extended arm.

On the day their Imperial Majesties proceeded to Pesth, an hour or two before they went on board the steamer, Murphy had the honour of being admitted to their presence. The Empress conversed with Murphy in English, and served as interpreter for the Emperor, who, it seems, understands but little of the language.

On the outside of a pew door in Madron Church, Cornwall, painted on a dark board in white letters, is the following quaint epitaph. Others somewhat similar will be found in Current Notes, Vol. VI. pp. 55 and 68.

Here lieth the body of Mary the daughter of Thomas Harvey, of this parish, died the 3rd of Feb. 1772. Aged 29.

> Weep not for me my parents dear,
> I am not dead but sleeping here;
> Some time apart we must remain,
> In future bliss to meet again.

Penzance. W.

DR. JORTIN'S EPITAPH ON HIS CAT.

> Fessa annis morboque gravi, mitissima Felis
> Inferno tandem cogor adire lacus:
> Et mihi subridens Proserpina dixit, Habeto
> Elysios soles, Elysiumque nemus:
> Sed bene si merui, facilis Regina silentum,
> Da mihi saltem unâ nocte redire domum,
> Nocte redire domum, dominoque hæc discere in aurem,
> Te tua fida etiam trans Styga Felis amat.
> Decessit Felis anno 1756:
> Vixit annos 14, menses 11, dies 4.

IMITATED.

> A Victim to the gradual lapse of age,
> Tho' thy attentive hand was ever nigh,
> Each want to help, and every pang assuage,
> At length without an agony I die.
> Believe that ev'n in death a wish remains,
> Nor do I rest without a fond desire,
> To tell thee, gentle soother of my pains,
> All which true love and gratitude inspire.
> Oh! let me as a dream at least appear,
> 'Revisiting the glimpses of the moon,'
> And whisper grateful in my master's ear —
> This wish obtain'd I ask no further boon.

BEWICK'S PORTRAIT BY NICHOLSON.

In one of the notes appended to the interesting letter of Bewick's published in last month's Current Notes, you have made Mr. Isaac Nicholson, Bewick's pupil, the painter of the portrait alluded to in the letter, p. 28. This is a mistake, the painter was Mr. William Nicholson, R.S.A., of Edinburgh. In addition to the portrait engraved by Ranson, Mr. Nicholson subsequently did one in water colours for Mr. Charnley of Newcastle, that has not been engraved; and also the portrait which forms the frontispiece to the volume of Select Fables, published in 1820. This latter was drawn on the wood by Mr. Nicholson, and engraved by Charlton Nesbit; both of these portraits are much better likenesses of Bewick than Ranson's engraving.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, May 7. WILLIAM DODD.

Bewick in his letter states—'While we were at Chillingham, Mr. Nicholson painted another likeness of me, in water colours, of a smaller size, but for what purpose I know not.' This seems to be the portrait painted for Mr. Charnley, alluded to by our correspondent, and if so was executed in July, 1815.—ED.

RAMSAY'S PORTRAITS OF BEWICK.

I have been much interested with the letter of Thomas Bewick, which appeared in the last number of Current Notes. Of the portraits of that remarkable man, I am proud to possess one by Ramsay, which, after the decease of the latter, I purchased when his pictures were sold. It was highly estimated by the artist, and, from the testimony of Mr. Richard R. Wingate and others, who were on familiar terms of intimacy with the celebrated wood engraver, is allowed to be an admirably effective and most faithful likeness. Bewick appears to look more fully upon you from it, than from any other portrait I have seen of him, and the face is radiant with 'manly cheerfulness.' Indeed, at the first glance, its life-likeness so arrested my attention that I determined to secure it. The right hand is shewn grasping a stick with a hooked horn head, surmounted at the joining by a silver hoop. This stick is still preserved by the engraver's family.

Ramsay, from what I can learn, painted four portraits of Bewick. One, from which the engraving by Burnet was executed, and likewise a smaller one on wood engraved for Select Fables, 1820, is in the possession of the Misses Bewick. Another was painted for the late Mr. Armorer Donkin of this town: and I have the third, the artist's own, already described. The fourth is a miniature, full length, about six inches high, which at Mr. Ramsay's sale was purchased by William Jackson, Esq. an ardent admirer of the works of Thomas Bewick. From this miniature, while in Mr. Ramsay's possession, an engraving was made at the expense of Mr. Turner, bookseller here, who has, I believe, some fine impressions still for sale.

What renders these portraits so peculiarly valuable, is the fact that Bewick's features were extremely difficult to delineate upon canvas, for like those of many great men, they changed as emotion or humour passed over his mind; and one painter, if not more, on attempting to represent his likeness, desisted, and threw down the pencil in despair. Ramsay was aware of this, and with the utmost felicity seized the prevailing expression, fixing it at once before him with masterly skill.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, May 12. ROBERT WHITE.

The study of antiquities constantly reveals some adventitious feature in elucidation of the history of the past, and opening the way to an infinite number of diverging results frequently differing widely from the generally accredited opinion, but which only a patient and skilful pertinacity of research, can render successfully available.

POPE'S MANUSCRIPTS.—Is it known where are deposited Pope's Manuscripts, formerly in Lord Bolingbroke's possession? 'J. C.'

Isaac Reed in his Diary, under September 2, 1783, recorded —Mr. Steevens told me he had on Sunday visited Lord Mansfield, who acquainted him, that, to his knowledge, Lord Bolingbroke burned all Mr. Pope's manuscript works.

SCOTT AND THE NEWCASTLE ANTIQUARIES.

The following unpublished correspondence will probably interest many readers of Current Notes, as referring to Scott's Border Minstrelsy, and his election as a member of the Antiquarian Society of Newcastle upon Tyne, instituted in January, 1813. The Society originated in the praiseworthy exertions of Mr. John Bell, bookseller, of the Quayside, who on its formation was appointed to be the Treasurer; the Rev. John Hodgson and Mr. John Adamson, being the Secretaries.

The first appears to be a reply to an application from Scott, for some Christmas Carols; a requisition which seems to have been most consonant with the bibliopolist's predilections, and to have found a ready concurrence. The superscriptions are to 'Walter Scott, Esq., Edinburgh;' and from him to 'Mr. John Bell, Jun., Quayside, Newcastle.'

Quayside, Newcastle,
Dec. 20, 1812.

Sir,—In answer to yours of the 11th inst., received yesterday, addressed to me, to the care of another bookseller here; you mention some Christmas Carols, which you had seen, printed by White of this Town. I have a copy of nearly all of the original ballads that were printed by him, and as you mention that sung by the Mummers, at Christmas, I herewith send it to you, with one or two things more, which I hope will be worth your acceptance.

The little publications of Ritson's I am enlarging with about four times as many more pieces, and intend one day or other, to publish them.

I am likewise in search of more local matter towards a second volume, or Collection of the Bards of Northumberland.

I feel obliged at your remarks on my work, and remain,
Your humble servant,
JNO. BELL.

Scott's immediate reply was thus couched:

Sir,—I am much obliged to you indeed for the very curious parcel of broadsides, which I have received by the Coach. I wish I had any thing suitable to send you in return for your second volume, but my stock of Minstrel Ballads has been long exhausted. As however there is a new edition of the Border ballads just published with some few additional illustrations respecting the battle of Otterburne, and other ballads connected with the North of England, I have directed Messrs. Ballantyne and Co. to send a set with their first parcel to Newcastle, of which I beg your acceptance, in case there should be any in it, which you may think interesting or which may afford illustrations for your second volume.

The Mumming Dialogue is curious and though greatly debased retains the appearance of having been an ancient Mystery. Some rhymes of the kind were current in Scotland during my boyhood, but though the custom of *mumming*, or *guisarding* as we call it, is still in some degree kept up, I suspect the rhymes are forgotten.

I am, Sir, very much, your obliged servant.
Edinb., 22 Dec. [1812.] WALTER SCOTT.

Some delay in Scott's promised boon occurred, but in the mean time, the Antiquarian Society of Newcastle had assumed a name if not a local habitation; and Scott

was evidently one of those whom Mr. Bell considered as a fitting adjunct to the brotherhood, and accordingly solicited him to join them. The ensuing reply was addressed—'Mr. Bell, with a Copy of the Minstrelsy.'

Dear Sir,—I have been some time absent from Edinburgh, owing to which, and to my wishing to add a copy of Rokeby, in which you may possibly take some interest, as the scene lies in the North of England, I could not till now accomplish my promise of sending you the Border Minstrelsy. The new edition of Rokeby is I find not to be published for a fortnight, so I will not any longer delay my packet on that account.

The institution for a Northumbrian Society of Antiquaries is most laudable, and the County affords much subject for curious research. As I could not upon any occasion propose myself the pleasure of attending their meetings, and am already a Member of two Societies of that kind in Scotland, it would be useless in me to add my name to the highly respectable list of Ordinary Members; but I will at all times, and in any way be most happy should it be in my power to further the researches of the Society, or of any of its Members. In yours, Sir, I am bound by many marks of your friendly attention to take a particular interest, and am very much

Your obliged humble servant,
Edinburgh, 25 March, [1813.] WALTER SCOTT.

Quayside, Newcastle, March 31, 1813.

Dear Sir,—I return my acknowledgments for the copy of the Border Minstrelsy, which for your Politeness in sending, and the fascination of its pages, I shall appreciate to my latest day—both it, and Rokeby, which you mention, and which I have had a glance at, in the way of Trade; are truely interesting to a lover of his Native Country.

The pleasing notice you take of the Newcastle Antiquarian Society, is highly gratifying to me, and on Monday next I shall do myself the Honour of proposing you as an *Honourary Member* of the same; hoping you will not consider it as presumption, in

Your much obliged humble servant,
JNO. BELL.

P.S. I beg your acceptance of a volume of Ballads from my library.

Dear Sir,—I shall be very proud to have my name entered upon your Northumbrian Society of Antiquaries, as a non-residing Member, if they will do me so much honour. I am truly ashamed at robbing your library of the curious collection of ballads, and make a very indifferent acknowledgement for such a compilation in sending you Rokeby, and an old metrical romance of Thomas the Rhymer, which I republished some years since, with copious notes. You may find something in it, which interests you as a Borderer.

I am, dear Sir, your obliged servant,
Edinb., 3 April, [1813.] WALTER SCOTT.

April 8, 1813.

Dear Sir,—I have the pleasure of informing you that you were yesterday elected an *Honourary Member* of the Newcastle upon Tyne Antiquarian Society, from my Proposition, seconded by two friends of mine, John Davidson and Thomas Davidson, esquires, of this place, on the other side. I send a copy of the Statutes, with a list of the members, up to the time of printing, but which are now nearly double the number.

Permit me again to acknowledge the further Honour conferred upon me, by sending Rokeby and Sir Trestrim [Tristam] and untill I find a return worthy such a present, accept of my warmest thanks and believe me,

Dear Sir, yours truly,
JNO. BELL.

To Walter Scott, Esq.,
Edinburgh.

AMERICAN SONG YANKEE DOODLE.

In Current Notes, March 1855, p. 21, are printed all the then known verses of the American song, Yankee Doodle. The following are stray verses of the old and real Yankee Doodle, which have been obtained from the recitation of a very aged individual.

Morwenstow. R. S. HAWKER.

Now cross over Jonathan,
Figure in Jemima;
Mother take the stools away,
'Twill make the room look wider.
Chorus. Yankee Doodle, Yankee Doodle,
Yankee Doodle Dandy.

Sister Sue is very sick,
We don't know what ails her;
She yesterday ate forty eggs,
And now her stomach fails her.
Chorus. Yankee Doodle, Yankee Doodle,
Yankee Doodle Dandy.

General Gage is very brave,
Very brave pertikular —
He gallop'd up a precipice,
And down a perpendicular.
Chorus. Yankee Doodle, Yankee Doodle,
Yankee Doodle Dandy.

COWLEY in his Davideis, has, as Dr. Johnson observes, started a sudden question to the confusion of philosophy—

Ye learned heads, whom ivy garlands grace,
Why does that twining plant the oak embrace?
The Oak, for courtship most of all unfit,
And rough as are the winds that fight with it.

The poet's querie has never been solved.

An advertisement dated September 4, 1856, addressed to the descendants of Abraham Cowley, buried in St. Peter's church-yard, St. Albans, 1697, intimated that his ledger-stone having fallen into dis-repair, had been moved to the western door of the said church, for the better state of the churchyard, and the convenience of the church, but that if any were aggrieved by the removal of the said stone, it would be replaced on notice being given to the Vicar or Churchwardens of St. Peter's, St. Alban's, Herts.

Who was this Abraham Cowley? was he in any way related to the poet, who died in 1667?

ORDER TO ARM BARBERS AND SURGEONS.

The Order for furnishing of certain of the Company to be trained to shoot in Calivers, according to a precept directed unto the Masters and Governors, viz., John Field, John Hitchin, Christopher Swaldell, and Henry Rankin, the day and year hereunder mentioned in the same precept.

By the Mayor.

To the Wardens of the Company of Barbers Surgeons.

These shall be to will and require you, and in Her Majesty's name strictly to charge and command you, that with all convenient speed you appoint and provide the number of Twelve able and sufficient persons, being journeymen, apprentices, and others, which are Freemen of this City, and inhabiting within the same, being of agility and honest of behaviour, between the age of nineteen years and forty, which are fit to be trained for Harquebuss-shot; every one of them having a Murrion, a Sword and Dagger, and a Caliver, with sufficient furniture for the same; and one half-pound of powder, besides touch-powder; whereof, three of the same persons to be Householders, and Freemen of your said Company, and that you certify me, the said Mayor, the names and surnames of all your said number, where and with whom they dwell, of what Company they be Free, and what Captains or other skilful men that be of your said Company, or whom you know inhabiting within this City, fit to Train or lead the same men, of their names and dwelling places.

And that they be all in readyness, furnished as aforesaid, to muster, in their hose and doublets only, or doublets, hose, and jerkins, within Thirteen days next ensuing the date hereof; and for the levying of money, for the said furniture, and for the charge of powder, you shall collect such reasonable sums of money as you shall find meet for the same, by way of reasonable assessment, of every wealthy and able person of your Company, wherein we require you in any wise to spare the poorer sort of Freemen, although you somewhat more largely burthen the rich.

Given at the Guildhall of this City of London the fifteenth day of March, 1577. SEBRIGHT.

A subsequent entry in the Records of this Company specifies the amount of money collected for 'the furnishing of the Souldiers.'

Sum of all the money received of Freemen, Foreigners, Strangers, for the furnishing of Soldiers, doth amount unto xxij li. xvij s. xj d.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

Can any of your correspondents inform me from what author these lines are taken?

Their names shall nerve the patriot band
Upraised to save a sinking land,
And piety shall learn to mourn
With holier sorrow o'er their urn.

May 7. W.

ANOMALY OF WEALTH.

James Brydges, Duke of Chandos, who had been Paymaster of the Forces during Queen Anne's wars, accumulated such a vast sum of money, that he determined to erect two more than royal edifices, and maintain them in a style of cost and magnificence far exceeding any of the then existing ducal nobility. The town house was in Cavendish Square; and his country house was at Canons, near Edgeware. The latter seemed built to be transmitted to ages of posterity; the walls were of a fabulous thickness, and the cost of the structure is said to have exceeded 250,000*l*. The Duke affected in all matters, the bearing, conduct, and hauteur of a Sovereign Prince, and the furniture at Canons was unexampled for its magnificence. Pope, in his 'Satire on False Taste,' thus sarcastically alludes to the extreme folly of its proprietor.

To Timon's villa let us pass a day,
Where all cry out, 'What sums are thrown away!'
So proud, so grand, of that stupendous air,
Soft and agreeable can come never there.
* * * *
Who but must laugh, the master when he sees,
A puny insect shiv'ring in the breeze;
Lo! what huge heaps of littleness around!
The whole, a labour'd quarry above ground.
* * * *
And now the chapel's silver bell you hear,
That summons you to all the pride of pray'r;
Light quirks of music, broken and uneven,
Make the soul dance upon a jig to heaven.
* * * *
Another age shall see the golden ear,
Imbrown the slope, and nod on the parterre;
Deep harvest bury all his pride has planned,
And laughing Ceres re-assume the land.

The Duke died at Canons, August 9, 1744, and his heir finding the hereditary fortune of his family insignificant to the retaining of the mansion, the furniture, its decorations, and the materials of the buildings were sold by auction in 1747, at very inconsiderable sums; thus verifying Pope's prediction. The dealers even found their commodities purchased there remain on hand, and the following, a folio leaf, here reprinted, will doubtless afford the reader some gratification. It was ssued by a broker who had effected these purchases, and was unable to dispose of them.

A Catalogue of the Goods which are to be sold by hand, of the late DUKE of CHANDOIS; and every day to be viewed in the Long Room, over Exeter Exchange, in the Strand. Each Catalogue, Four Pence.

1. The fine State Bed, being a magnificent four post Bedstead, the Tester and Head-board finely carved and lined with white Mantua silk, finely embroidered with gold and needle work. The curtains, vallens and bases, of scarlet velvet, flowered and ornamented with gold and gold fringe and tassels, and lined with green satten; the coronet covered with gold tissue, and ornamented with precious stones. Cost a Thousand Pounds.

2. A superfine scarlet cloth bed-carpet, richly embroidered and ornamented with gold and silver.

3. Eight very neatly carved and gilt chairs, and two stools, the backs and seats covered with rich crimson velvet, ornamented and flowered with gold; which chairs and stools cost a hundred and thirty pounds.

4. Three pieces of most beautiful landskip and historical Tapestry, enriched with gold and silver, and bordered with fine festoons of flowers, copied from BAPTIST,* which cost upwards of seven guineas an ell Flemish.

5. A magnificent and beautiful marble Table, embellished with variety of curious rich stones inlaid in such a fine manner as to represent birds, flowers, fruits, and insects, supported by a finely carved and gilt frame. Cost upwards of Seven Hundred Pounds.

6. Five Original Cartoons, done actually by RAPHAEL, representing —

God breathing life into Adam.

God giving consent fot Adam and Eve to live together.

God shewing Adam the forbidden fruit.

Adam and Eve in contrition for having eaten of the forbidden fruit.

The fifth, a very large one, of Adam giving the names to the beasts and fowls; which five Cartoons cost the Duke upwards of Twelve Thousand Pounds.

The Duke of Orleans, who was Regent to the present King of France, bid Twenty Thousand Pounds for them, which pictures cannot be matched for twice that sum elsewhere.

7. Five Original Academy Pictures, done by that great master Michael Angelo; cost one Hundred and Fifty Pounds.

8. A fine large Pier-glass and a gold frame.

9. A very grand brass-front stove, with brass-turned pillars; for conveniency made to be taken to pieces. The workmanship cost Twenty Pounds.

10. A Picture of the Duke and Duchess.

11. A neat Oriental Marble Table, on a neat carved frame.

12. A very fine six-leaf India screen of the old Japan, stands eight feet high.

N.B. If any Gentleman has a mind to treat for the whole, or any part, by directing a line to Charles Kemp, in Aldersgate Street, who buys Goods and Estates by Commission, will be waited on as directed.

Cardinal Brienne, first Minister of France, retired from office, August 24, 1788, with the revenue as an ecclesiastic and in pensions of 800,000 livres yearly.

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* Jean Baptiste Monoyer, a Dutch painter, memorable for his flower painting, in which he excelled in the boldness of his composition, the energy of his touch, and the force of his colouring. He died in Pall Mall, in 1699; his contemporaries generally designated him by name Baptiste.

HANDEL CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION.

Handel died April 14, 1759, in his seventy-sixth year, and was buried in Westminster Abbey. It is proposed, on the occasion of the approaching centennial anniversary of his death, to raise a statue to his memory in Halle, his native town, and a Committee, having that object in view, was there constituted about a year since, and made such satisfactory progress in the all-important purport of collecting subscriptions, that Heidel, the sculptor, at Berlin, has been directed to proceed in the elaboration of his colossal model of the great master. A smaller study, from two to three feet high, as a model for the larger work, has been finished, and has already obtained the highest approbation, more particularly of the two most accredited best judges of art in Germany, the King of Prussia and the Duke of Saxe-Coburg. It is stated there is a branch Committee in London for the advancement of the Commemoration and the Statue.

ROUBILIAC MISREPRESENTED.

Roubiliac's onward course through life appears to have been impelled by his merit solely, although later it is stated to have arisen from a very different cause. Walpole, in reference to Roubiliac, observes, 'he became a formidable rival to Rysbrach, and, latterly, was more employed. He had little business till Sir Edward Walpole recommended him to execute half the busts at Trinity College, Dublin, and by the same patron's interest he was employed on the monument of John, Duke of Argyle, in Westminster Abbey. His statue of Handel, in the garden at Vauxhall, fixed Roubiliac's fame.' Roubiliac died in insolvent circumstances in St. Martin's Lane, January 11, 1762, and in May, 1765, first appeared the following statement: —

The following anecdote of the late famous Mr. Roubiliac deserves to be recorded. Some years since the above celebrated statuary found a parcel of bank notes in the churchyard of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, to the amount of 7000*l.*, the property of a Yorkshire gentleman, who advertised a reward of 500*l.*, in consequence of which Mr. Roubiliac returned the notes, but generously refused to take the reward, though at that time he was greatly distressed for money; the gentleman, charmed with his behaviour, made him a present of a fine set of plate, and left him 1000*l.* in his will, in case he survived him; but Mr. Roubiliac dying first rendered the gentleman's grateful intention of no effect.

No further notice was taken at the time, till the following occurrence was announced in 'The Argus' newspaper, September 27, 1792: —

A gentleman at Carlisle lately found a parcel of bank notes, to return which he directly advertised for the owner.

Mr. Roubiliac, the celebrated statuary, once found in the street a pocket-book, with notes in it for 4000*l.* The loser advertised for them a reward of 500*l.* Roubiliac instantly restored the notes, and to the last persisted in refusing the reward. Soon afterwards the person died, and left to Mr. Roubiliac a legacy of 1200*l.*

Editors are, however, generally sad blundering fellows, Shakespeare Boaden being then the editor of

'The Argus,' and that paper, on October 3, following, contained the following amendation: —

Mr. Editor,—The paragraph which appeared in your paper, last week, respecting Mr. Roubiliac was rather falsely represented; the sum found in the pocket-book amounted to 9000*l.* instead of 4000*l.*! It was found in Lancaster-court, St. Martin's-lane.

Mr. Roubiliac dying some years before the gentleman who lost the book, the legacy, if mentioned in the will, of which I never received information, was never paid to any of the family. This I can assure you to be true, upon very good authority, and shall be obliged to you to insert it in your much admired paper.

I am, Sir, your humble servant, I——.

From this it will be seen a story loses nothing by telling, and Northcote, no great adept in the choice of his materials for the Memoirs of Sir Joshua Reynolds,* records: —

Of Roubiliac it is a pleasing circumstance to record, that his own goodness of heart first brought his excellent abilities into notice, and that his great success in life seems to have depended, in some degree, on his honest and liberal conduct soon after he came to England. He was at that time merely working as a journeyman for a person of the name of Carter; and the young artist having spent an evening at Vauxhall, on his return picked up a pocket-book, which he discovered, on examining it at his lodgings, to contain a considerable number of bank notes, together with some papers apparently of consequence to the owner. He immediately advertised the circumstance, and a claimant soon appeared, who was so pleased with the integrity of the youth, and so struck with his genius, of which he shewed several specimens, that he not only, being a man of rank and fortune, gave him a handsome remuneration, but also promised to patronise him through life, and faithfully performed that promise.

The Rev. James Dallaway, who received from Major fifty pounds per volume for editing the edition of Walpole's Anecdotes, 1827, has adopted Northcote's idle story,† and quoting the octavo edition of his Memoir of Reynolds, vol. 1, p. 49, thus renders it:

Sir Joshua Reynolds related an anecdote of Roubiliac, whom he knew well, extremely honourable, as an instance of moral feeling. Very soon after he arrived in England, and was then working as journeyman to Carter, a maker of monuments; having spent an evening at Vauxhall, on his return he picked up a pocket-book, which he found to inclose several bank notes of value. He immediately advertised the circumstance, and a gentleman of fashion (*Sir Edward Walpole*) claimed the pocket-book. Justly appreciating the integrity of the poor young man, and the specimens of his skill and talent which he exhibited, he promised to patronise him through life, and he faithfully performed that promise.

It is thus apparent the assertion of Roubiliac's finding the parcel of bank notes is an idle fiction, adds nothing to the sculptor's distinction or fame, and should find no place in any biography of him.

Z.

* Edition 1813, 4to. pp. 29, 30. Northcote further erroneously states he was employed by Carter. Cheere was Roubiliac's early employer, not Carter.

† Vol. iv. p. 192.

FREDERICK THE GREAT'S GREYHOUND.

The attachment of Frederick the Second, of Prussia, to dogs was a leading feature in his character, and he constantly expressed his great partiality to these faithful and good natured animals. He had generally in his cabinet a number of small leather balls for his favorites to divert themselves. If they were ill, he ordered that they should have every possible attention; and in his earliest campaigns one of them accompanied him every where. On one occasion, attended by a favorite greyhound named Biche, he ventured too far, and perceived at a distance, but advancing to where he was, a troop of Pandours. To avoid them was impossible, except by suddenly concealing himself under the arch of a bridge that had been thrown over a wide ditch. He did so, and in this rather unkingly situation was hidden from casual observance, and had nothing to apprehend for his safety, unless the barking of his greyhound should betray him to the Pandours while passing over him on the bridge; but the animal, as if conscious of her master's danger, pressed close to his person, without the least noise. The King soon after met General Rothenburgh, or Ruthenburgh, to whom he smilingly presented little Biche, as one of his most faithful friends; but, as the adage goes, 'the best of friends must part,' it so happened, in the battle near Soor, the king's baggage, with little Biche, fell into the hands of the Austrians, and the companion of royalty was taken by the lady of General Nadasti, who, after many solicitations, and most unwillingly, was prevailed on to permit Biche's return to her rightful owner.

Biche was brought back to the palace, while the monarch was busily employed with his pen in his cabinet. General Ruthenburgh, unwilling to disturb him, opened the door gently, and Biche entering unperceived by the King, jumped upon the table, stood before her master, and laying her paws on his shoulders, in the fondest manner evinced her delight. Frederick was so much pleased that tears glistened in his eyes, and Biche was absolved from all future military forays.

In the palace of Sans Souci a little monument was raised to the memory of this faithful animal, and her progeny remained about the King's person when he died.

BYRON'S CHILDE ALARIQUE.

The following inedited letter of Miss Jane Porter, authoress of Scottish Chiefs, Thaddeus of Warsaw, and other popular works, addressed to Sir S. E. Brydges, 'the poet of Wooton,' will, doubtless, be read with gratification, from the admirable sentiments it inculcates.

Long Ditton, August 26th, 1813.

I have just received Mr. Gillies' letter of the 21st, so kindly forwarded by you. I have yet to thank you, my dear Sir, for the one you sent to me before, and the hasty, but interesting letter from yourself, of the 11th. You there give me a glimpse of your early life, and of the cloud of adverse circumstances which obscured its brightness. I am well acquainted in the person of

beings dear to me from my infancy, with the envy that menaces high talents, and with the trials which await the superior endowments of genius; but these trials, I am convinced, are given to prove, and to display the powers of those minds; to cause them to exercise their mental and moral strength, and to refine, confirm, and brighten their character, as we do gold in the furnace—as only the bravest spirits in an army are placed in the posts of extremest danger, which are also the posts of honour, so Providence selects the greatest souls to be examples of Fortitude, under suffering, and magnanimity under the oppressions of the world. It is a high commission, dear Sir, that such spirits are called upon to fulfil; and if at last, the whole is atchieved so as to merit the approbation of the Almighty Dispenser of all our faculties how little must be the regret, that half the world were your enemies!

I warmly sympathise in your admiration of the Bard of *Childe Alarique*, but I cannot agree with you, that "the poet of Wooton," is at all inferior. There is a deep pathos, a sublime purity of sentiment in both, that I have no where seen excelled. When poetry breathes the inspiration of virtue, it is then, that we feel her celestial birth; it is then, that we reverence the poet as only next in dignity to the prophet.

Childe Alarique only requires to be known to make itself a thousand friends, and as far as my little power will operate towards that effect, it shall be exerted. I am acquainted with the Editor of the *New Review*, published by Valpy, and I will send him an analysis of the poem, which is the form in which that work reviews authors.

Mr. Gillies repeats having seen my brother, and mentions his having rather confidently promised to my Scottish friends, my visiting their country this autumn; Alas! my dear brother, is little aware how constantly the delicate state of my mother's health confines me to within a day's journey, at farthest, distant from her. I have hardly a hope of reaching Scotland at all; certainly not, unless she were well enough to accompany me.

When does your family return to town? I hope early in the spring, as then my brother will be settled in town, for the season, and I shall have frequent opportunities of enjoying the society of Lady Brydges and yourself.

Pray remember me with all kind wishes to her, and to your sweet daughters; and believe me, dear Sir, very much yours.

JANE PORTER.

HASWELL.—Can any of your Correspondents inform me in what part of Scotland the family of Haswell, or as it was formerly written, Hessewelle, or with other alterations more or less assimilated to the one way or other, was or is located? The original family belongs, I believe, to Co. Durham. I find records of them there from the 13th century, but cannot trace the Scotch family at all, Any light upon this subject would much oblige one of that name.

On the fly leaf of a copy of the Musæ Anglicanæ that some years since came under my notice, was the following inscription:

Sum
SEPTIMI COLLINSON,
Cujus quod sum mihi gratulor,
Illius quippe
Meas qui sapere possit elegantias
Omnigenasque veneres,
Jucunde non magis quam utilitur
Sibi et reipublicæ,
Quorum utriusque interest,
Ut optimum ingenium,
Gravioribus studiis exercitatum,
Pieriis epulis reficiatur!
Noli, lector, adulatorem suspicari,
Namque invidus laudo.

Dr. Collinson, who was a length of time Provost of Queen's College, and Margaret Professor of Divinity in the University of Oxford, died in 1827.

St. Alban's, Heworth. E. H. A.

PRE-EMINENCE OF SCIENCE.

A recent letter from Naples shews that Science, though for a time depressed, will bound beyond human control. Signor Gasparini, a distinguished Neapolitan botanist, held, in 1848, a situation in the University of his native country, but, although he took no part in politics, King Bomba, after his violation of the Constitution, deprived the Professor of his situation, and reduced him to extreme poverty. Several applications to be reinstated were made without producing effect on the Neapolitan Government. In the meantime, a learned botanist from Vienna visited Naples, and finding the low and melancholy condition to which Signor Gasparini was involved, promised to procure an appointment for him in the Lombardo-Venetian provinces, which proffered kindness he gratefully accepted. The Neapolitan Government, however, interfered, and declared that the King would see with displeasure one of his disgraced professors appointed to an official situation by a friendly Government. The affair appeared to have fallen altogether in abeyance, until the recent visit of the Emperor of Austria to his Italian dominions, when, by an Imperial Decree, dated March 13, Signor Gasparini was appointed Professor of Botany in the University of Pavia. Another extraordinary circumstance occurred connected with this affair which is deserving of especial notice. When Baron Martini, the Austrian Minister at Naples, announced to Signor Gasparini his appointment, he added, 'His Majesty sends you near the frontiers of Piedmont, for he is determined to compete with the King of that country in extending education, and protecting the arts and sciences in Italy.'

Vidocq, whose auto-biography, from his extraordinary notoriety as connected with the police of Paris, created no little attraction even in this metropolis, died recently at Paris, in his seventy-eighth year.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXVIII.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [JUNE, 1857.

WEDDING POSIES.

It was formerly the custom that Brides on their wedding-day should present their husbands with a ring having some inscription or posy, as it was called, engraved on the inner gold. The wife of Bishop Bull, it is said, chose this most appropriate motto—

Bene parēre, parāre, et parēre mihi det Deus!

The Latin quatrain which follows was written on the occasion of our beloved Queen's marriage. I rejoice to think, that under the Divine Blessing, my wishes have been so happily realized.

AD VICTORIAM.

Terræ hujus Decus! et regum pulcherrima Proles!
Quæ Tibi pro tantâ nobilitate feram?
Pareat imperio populus! connubia durent!
Lucina et blandam rite ministret opem!

Feb. 10, 1840.

Will any of your readers favour me with a translation in verse?

Newport, Essex, June 12. WILLIAM HILDYARD.

DONA IGNEZ DE CASTRO.

The sad story of this unfortunate lady is probably too well known to need any lengthened recital on this occasion. She was a Castilian lady of noble extraction, who came to Portugal in attendance upon the Princess Constance, on her marriage with the Infante Don Pedro, son and heir of Alphonso the Fourth. Such was her beauty that the Prince became enamoured of her, and after the death of the Princess, was secretly married to her by the Bishop of Guarda. Some of the old King's evil counsellors, instigated by envy and jealousy, succeeded in obtaining his sanction for the assassination of the beautiful and innocent Ignez, his daughter-in-law, the wife of his son. The horrid deed was perpetrated during the absence of Don Pedro upon a hunting excursion, on January 7, 1355. The devoted widower, after his accession to the throne, caused the remains of his beloved consort to be exhumed, and after decreeing to them all the insignia and emblems of royalty, and enforcing from the nobles their homage and recognition of her as Queen of Portugal, conducted the corpse in solemn funeral procession to the monastery of Alcobaca, where the magnificently sculptured 'tombs of Ignez and Pedro,' though they did not escape the sacrilegious violence of the French soldiery in the Peninsular war, may still be seen.

The melancholy fate of Ignez has been pathetically recorded by the old chroniclers and historians, and has supplied a favourite theme and subject for the exercise of the fancy and imagination of poets, dramatists, artists, and novelists, from the period of the murder to the present time. Camoens has introduced the tale into the third canto of the Lusiad, in an episode which had the reluctant commendation of Voltaire. That immortal poem has been translated into Hebrew and Latin, Spanish, French, and Italian, English and German, Danish and Swedish. In the Portuguese language, the story of Ignez has given rise to four, if not five tragedies. One by Antonio Ferreira, the Portuguese Horace, which has been translated into English by Mr. Musgrave; another by Nicola Luiz, of which an English translation by the late Mr. John Adamson, was printed in 1808; a third by Domingos dos Reis Quita, translated into English prose by Benjamin Thompson; and a fourth, entitled Nova Castro, by Joaõ Baptista Gomez; besides which, mention is made in Twiss's Travels in Spain and Portugal, of another, by S. Silveira, printed at Lisbon in 1764, which would also appear to have been translated into German.

There are also the following works relating to the same tragical event, of which I know nothing more than the titles—Sandades de D. Ignez de Castro pelo Manoel de Asevedo, Coimbra, 1734; and Sandades dos Serenissimos Reis de Portugal D. Pedro e D. Ignez de Castro, por D. Maria de Lara e Menezes Na officina de Pedro Ferreira, 1762. Nor should we omit a Sonnet by Antonio Ribeiro dos Santos, a translation of which is given in Mr. Adamson's Lusitania Illustrata, part 1, p. 76, and which may be regarded as an Inscription for the celebrated Fount of Tears, in the garden of the Quinta das Lagrimas, at Coimbra.

In the Spanish language there are three dramas which owe their origin to this sad catastrophe; two tragedies by the monk Geronimo Bermudez, entitled—Nise Lastimosa; and Nise Laureada; the word Nise being an anagram of Ines; written after the model of the old Greek plays. They were originally printed in 1577, and have since been reprinted in the sixth volume of El Parnaso Espanol. The other drama is by Luis Velez de Guevara, and bears the title of Reynar Despues de Morir.

In the French Language there seems to have been a novel written by a Lady of Quality, which was 'made English' by the notorious Mrs. Behn, and published with the rest of her works, under the title of Agnes de Castro; or, the Force of Generous Love. On this French novel Mrs. Catharine Trotter, (afterwards Mrs. Cockburn) founded the plot of her tragedy of Agnes de Castro, which was acted at the Theatre Royal in 1695, and met with great success. From a tragedy by Mons. De La Motte, said to be written in a turgid and inflated style, Mallet took his Elvira, acted at Drury Lane for

nine successive nights, and published in 1763. A German translation of De La Motte's Inez de Castro, was printed at Leipzig in 1774. The exhibition at Paris of a picture by the Count de Forbin, representing the exhumation and coronation of Ignez, suggested to the Countess de Genlis, the idea of writing an historical novel that has been translated into Portuguese, by D Caetano Lopez de Moura, a native of Bahia, and printed at Paris in 1837.

In the English language, besides the translations to which allusion has already been made, there are four original tragedies—Inez, of which the author is unknown, printed at London, 1796; Inez de Castro, an historical drama, by Jonathan Skelton, of Trinity Hall, Cambridge; London, 1841; Ignez de Castro, a tragedy in five acts, contributed to Hood's Magazine, by the author of Rural Sonnets, London, 1846; and Inez de Castro, a tragedy in five acts, by Miss Mitford, printed in the second volume of her Dramatic Works, 1854.

In 1829, Mons. St. Evre exhibited at Somerset House his famous pictures, of which reduced sketches by the artist himself are now before me, representing the Coronation of Ignez in the Church of Santa Clara, at Coimbra; and the Funeral Procession at the moment of its arrival at Alcobaca. The sight of these pictures inspired Mrs. Bray with an interest in the story of Ignez, and led to the composition of one of her fascinating romances, entitled The Talba; or, the Moor of Portugal, which appeared shortly afterwards. Among the minor pieces relating to the fair Castilian, may be enumerated some verses by Lady Flora Hastings, and Lord William Lennox. Some stanzas on the Coronation, by an anonymous writer in the English Journal, January 16, 1841; and a Prologue, written for an intended tragedy on the same subject, by Mr. John Adamson, Lusitania Illustrata, part 1, p. 74.

A portrait of the beautiful creature, whose cruel fate has occasioned such a variety of compositions, was engraved for the embellishment of Mr. Adamson's Memoir of the Life and Writings of Camoens. It was taken from a print in a work entitled, Retratos e Elogios dos Varoens e Doñas que illustraram a Nacao Portugueza. The original painting was in the possession of the Conde de Redondo.

I conclude with a query, as I am very desirous of ascertaining what has become of the copper plate which was engraved by Skelton, for Mr. Adamson.

Heworth, June 17. E. H. A.

KEY MODE OF DETECTING THIEVES.

In one of the pocket journals of the Rev. John Price, formerly Keeper of the Bodleian Library, is the following extract from an old manuscript referring to, it is hoped, a long since gone-by superstitious belief.

Place a key upright on the 18, 19, 20, and 21 verses of the Fifteenth Psalm, and mention the names of the Persons suspected—it will turn and fall down at his name, who is the thief.

Oxford, June 4. F. C.

CERVANTES. In a conversational party the other evening an assertion by a gentleman created quite a sensation, by his stating that Cervantes' admirable romance of Don Quixote was not original, he was certain he had so satisfied himself of the fact, though he was unable to refer those present to where the particulars could be substantiated. Is there any basis for this doubt, or any source from which such a statement could emanate?

Manchester, June 10. S. F. F.

In the Advertisement to a French translation of a volume entitled, 'Le Desespoir Amoureux, avec les Nouvelles Visions de Don Quixotte, Histoire Espagnolle,' printed at Amsterdam, 1715, duod., the Translator observes—We are beholden to Spanish writers for the Histories contained in this volume, which are merely a translation from their works, more particularly from those of the author of 'Homicidio dela Fidelitad, y la Defensa del Honor,' printed for John Richer, at Paris, in 1609, but known in the original Spanish more than a century before Miguel Cervantes, who produced the celebrated romance of Don Quixote, came into the world. Don Quixote is introduced in the three following histories or novels:

Histoire du Berger Philidon, et de la Bergere Floride, avec quelques Visions de Don Quichotte. Cervantes has embodied this entire novel into his own work.

Les Amours de Don Antonio, avec les Prouesses de Don Quichotte; and thirdly—

Les Avantures Étranges de Cretonia et de son fils Don Felix, avec de Nouvelles Visions de Don Quixotte.

This last, wherein Don Quixote and Don Felix are introduced, having met at an inn, is the story of Walpole's Mysterious Mother. Cervantes therefore, upon this showing found the character of Don Quixote, an erratic being, his head being turned by the perusal of romances, riding everywhere, armed cap-a-pie, in search of adventures, ready sketched to his hand, but his version of the adventures of the rueful knight, will, like the writings of Shakespeare, be popularly appreciated and revered till the crack of doom.

CERVANTES' DON QUIXOTE.

In the Grenville Library Catalogue, it is stated there were two editions of the first volume bearing the date 1605; the difference being that one has the privilege for Castille only, and the certificate for the Errata, dated 1 Dec. 1604. The other has the privilege for Castille, Aragon, and Portugal, dated Feb. 9, 1605. In the library of Mr. John Dunn Gardner, was a first volume, the certificate being dated the 24th day of December, 1604, thus constituting a third or intermediate variation. Qu. Are these all one and the same edition, differing only in the alterations on the title and following leaf? A comparison by any of your Correspondents, would soon determine the question, and confer a favor on

June 8. M.

The Union Society, Oxford, adopted, in this seat of learning, as the subject of discussion at a recent meeting—That, by late events, some coercion of the press is rendered necessary!

PAUL VERONESE'S TENT OF DARIUS.

Wright in his Observations while attending George, Lord Parker, in his travels through France, Italy, etc., 1720-22, notices—The richest furniture of the Venetian palaces is their paintings, with which they are often well stored. We saw several good ones at several palaces of the Grimani, there are six or seven families of that name: Maniani, Grassi, Delfino, Pisani, Barberigo and others. The Finding of Moses, in one of the palaces of the Grimani, that near the Servi, is the most celebrated piece of Paolo of any that is in private hands; the whole piece is very fine, but what shines most, as indeed it should, is Pharaoh's daughter; besides the beauty of the lady's person, the exquisite delicacy of her drapery is surprising.

At the Palazzo Pisani is another much celebrated piece of Paolo Veronese, it represents Darius's Tent, or rather his family, for the Tent itself is not described in the picture, We have some copies of it in England.

KING'S COLLEGE, A CENTURY SINCE.

During the last week one of the last monuments of old New York has disappeared before the advancing press of business. On a tract of land so far up the island as to be out of the reach not only of business but of population, the foundation stone was laid in the year 1756, for the buildings then and since occupied by King's College. The institution was liberally endowed as things went in those days. When the States cut loose from the King the name of the institution was changed to the more euphonious and republican one of Columbia, but the buildings and endowments remained. Population some years ago left it in the rear; and now, business having quite encircled it, the college authorities have given up their grounds in Park-place, for the construction of marble warehouses, and have removed the whole institution some four or five miles further up the island, planting it again upon the outskirts of population. Seeing the immense amount of building going on, and the rapid increase of New York, one is tempted to speculate whether another century will roll over before it will again find itself in the midst of business. I see no signs of check in the prosperity of New York. On the contrary, more buildings are going on, and of a more magnificent character, this year than ever before. Whole streets are again in ruins, on which marble warehouses will rise equalling in beauty any warehouses in the world. Shipping alone is stagnant, and freights low; but this can only be temporary, and meanwhile manufactures of almost every branch are concentrating here. If Wouter Van Swiller were to return, and see the quiet places where he used to enjoy his pipe amid the cares of government; or if Peter the Testy, were to behold the meadows devoted in his day, to pasturing the cattle destined for the distant town, now covered with expensive dwellings, I fancy that those respectable old gentlemen would go crazy at once.

New York, May 13. C.

WHO WROTE THE WAVERLEY NOVELS?

Mr. Fitzpatrick's inquisitorial enquiry into the claims of Sir Walter Scott being the reputed author of the Waverley Novels, to which a dispassionate reply was printed in Current Notes, June 1856; has at last been finally dissolved by the following announcement addressed to the Editor, and printed in the Times Newspaper of the 5th inst.

THE WAVERLEY NOVELS.

Sir,—As the daughters of the late Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Scott, we desire to offer to the public, through your journal, our full and entire contradiction of a report which has been circulated, and which claims for our parents some participation, less or more, in the authorship of the *Waverley* Novels.

We shall be greatly obliged by your giving publicity to our declaration, that these surmises are entirely false.

We have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servants,
JESSIE HUXLEY.
ANNE RUTHERFORD SCOTT.
ELIZA C. PEAT.

June 3.

FEUDS OF THE MACGREGOR CLAN.

Sir Walter Scott revived a great interest in the Highland clan McGregor, by his vivid impersonation of Rob Roy, whose character and daring exploits were perfectly in keeping with those of his forefathers. But the Clangregoris, was not a mere freebooting and shifty body subsisting on black mail and robbery. The chiefs possessed large territories, and inter-married with the most potent families in the surrounding districts. It seems, however, that they were either very turbulent and lawless, or made themselves so obnoxious to other neighbouring clans, more especially to the Campbells, that they were engaged in endless feuds, out of which issued much intrigue, bloodshed, and butchery, till finally persecution and extirpation fell upon the unhappy and dreaded name.

The crisis of their fate arrived at the beginning of the 17th century, when for one of their most furious and destructive raids eighteen of the principals were taken to Edinburgh, and there at the Mercat Cross, were hanged and quartered, at their head being Alester Roy M'Gregour of Glenschray, who 'was hung on ane pyn [a pin] an ell higher than the rest.' In this promiscuous legal slaughter a variety of names shew that the Clan Gregor had numerous adherents, who acknowledged their Chieftaincy, and followed them to war, plunder, or death; for we find M'Allesters, M'Neill's, M Conochies, and other Macs, who were all ignominiously suspended on the cross-formed gibbet, so many feet below the elevated distinction of their unfortunate leader. But besides this terrible example, others were hanged there, and in other places; and at the same

time, their country was scoured with merciless cruelty, and fugitives were murdered or massacred wherever they were found, sometimes not fewer than a score in the struggle and the chase. The gallows on which the M'Gregors suffered in Edinburgh was, we are told, raised on purpose for them, in the shape of the cross, so that they might all be suspended together, with Glenschray at the top. The fashion was indeed so new and original that 'M'Gregour and the gallows was maid a comoun proverb.'

We might imagine that this process of extinction by law and the sword would have completely quelled the desperate Clan, but, on the contrary so soon after as the year 1610, i. e. within six or seven years; we have King James the First dispatching the Earl of Dundar for taking order with them, and settling the Highlands as he had previously settled the Lowlands or south-borders of Scotland. His commission was to call out the noble and gentlemen of these parts "to pursue the said Clan Gregour, for rooting out of their posterity and name!"

This was, indeed, to Settle a Country, and yet such were the good old times—times when the strongest took what they could and kept it against all invaders. The proscribed M'Gregours could not hold their own against this accumulated force, but Providence respited them for a while.

Being fiercely, 'straitlie' pursued, they fled to an Isle called Hanvernak in Monteith, where by order of the 'Secret Counsell,' they were in February 1611 besieged by the array called out against them; but the impending vengeance was 'haistily dissolved through ane vehement storme of snaw.' Of three of their leaders, however, one was slain, and two were sent prisoners to Edinburgh to be dealt with!

The Earl of Dunbar having died, several other commissions were issued, and a furious desultory warfare was carried on, the M'Gregors ravaging the lands of the Campbells, and in one of their forays killing forty great mares and their followers in Glenurgquhay, whence the Marquis of Breadalbane takes his second title of Lord Glenorchy; together with a fair courser sent to the Laird from the Prince out of London. The revenge for this barbarous act, which nearly annihilated a zealous endeavour to improve the Highland breed of horses, contemporary, by the by, with the introduction and propagation of fir trees by the same influence; was exemplarily savage and not long delayed. The M'Gregors now held together to the number of six or seven score of men, but were pursued by superior force through Balquihidder, Monteith, and Lennox till brought to a stand at Benbuie in Argyle, where they were defeated with great slaughter, and the prisoners hanged on the spot where the mares were killed.

From that date they were so scattered that never above the number of ten or twelve, met again. The despoiling of the Clan led to great controversy, and the partition of their forfeited property and lands was the source of violent disputes, even among the near relations and families of those who had ruined them. Among the subjects of quarrel was the allotment of some portions of the fines or rents originally belonging to the obliterated tribe for the maintenance of three or four score of their orphan bairns, who were herded together like the children in a modern poorhouse, and not quite so sufficiently provided for.

Such was the finale of the wild blood of the clan Gregouris which had troubled the Highlands for a hundred years anterior to the period at which we have taken up their history. For a long time the very 'name was never heard;' till at length Gregorys, Gregersons Gregsons, and Smiths, the refuge for the destitute, began to appear, and, at last, in spite of all danger, the Mac Gregor again arose and has 'flourished among the foremost in every walk of life—the army, the civil service, and the learned professions.

Before laying down the pen, we may mention two memorable events connected with the antecedents of ClanGregor exploits and casualties during the sixteenth century. First, John M'Ewin M'Allaster M'Gregour ravished Helene Campbell, daughter of Sir Coline Campbell of Glenarquhay, Knight, and widow of Lochbuy, and of their two grandsons one died of the hurt of an arrow going betwixt Glenlyon and Rannoch; and the other, his brother Gregor, was beheaded by Coline Campbell, the nephew of the lady from whose enforced union he had the fate to spring. Allaster Roy, his son, was the unfortunate individual who was elevated to the 'pyn' of the Gallows-cross in the sanguinary execution at the Mercat Cross of Edinburgh.

The massacre at Glencoe, so extenuated by Macaulay, and a series of vengeful incidents after the battle of Culloden re-shadowed forth during two hundred and fifty years the olden order of things in the days of the ClanGregor. Balmoral, and Taymouth, and Drummond Castle, witness other sights; and perhaps the happiest parts of the British Isles are those very districts where lawless oppression and vindictive fury without let or hindrance reigned so long. Well may the present generation, but in an opposite sense, ask with Macduff,

Stands Scotland where it did?

EXPENDITURE ON THE NATIONAL COLLECTIONS.

The accounts for the financial year ending in April 1857, shew that in the year 1856-7, there has been expended on the National Collections 202,467*l.* against 228,866*l.* disbursed in 1855-6.

To the British Museum Establishment was appropriated 49,460*l.* To the buildings, 49,768*l.* and to purchases, 20,454*l.*

To the National Gallery, 12,077*l.*, and to Scientific Works and Experiments, 5,815*l.*

To the Royal Geographical Society, 500*l.*; to the Department of Science and Art, 58,966*l.*; to the Museum of Practical Geology, 7,312*l.*; and to the Royal Society, 1000*l.*

The total amount expended on the purchase and laying out of the Kensington Gore estate, from 1851 to 1856 to 1856 inclusive, is 277,309*l.*

PERPETUITY OF SCOTT'S FAMILY.

With Sir Walter Scott, the desire to perpetuate his name and family was in him the special shape taken by 'the last infirmity of noble minds;' his every action and movement in life tended to that pursuit, and the perpetuity of a great name has a natural and universal, if somewhat sentimental interest. The announcement of the birth of a son to Mr. Hope Scott of Abbotsford, renews the prospect of the continuance of the family and name of the celebrated poet and novelist. Mrs. Hope Scott is Sir Walter's only surviving grand-child, and the infant born on the 2nd inst., his sole representative in the fourth generation. Should the child who thus inherits this illustrious name happily live to bear it, and to transmit it, it may be a gratification to his country, and the prospect has the further interest of its promising the fulfilment of one of the dearest wishes of Sir Walter's heart, but are not the family now perverts to Romanism? a creed to which the novelist would never have submitted.

CALVES' HEAD CLUB.

The late Dr. Macrie in his review of the Tales of my Landlord, twice refers to a club with the above designation. In the new edition of his works, Blackwood, 1857, Vol. IV., p. 49, an extract is given from Anderson's Defence of the Presbyterians; part of it runs thus—

'Tis difficult to name that ill thing which a Heylin, a Hickes, a Leslley, a Sacheverel, a Calder, or some other very reverend divine of the like probity has not writ of them, or imputed to them, *i. e.* Presbyterians or Whigs. Calves Head feasts are with these authors true history. Why? Because one of themselves wrote, and the rest cite it, and who dares doubt it after that?

Again, at p. 90, a quotation is given from a Sermon preached on the barbarous and bloodie murder of the Royal Martyr King Charles the First, 1708; by Mr. Robert Calder, one of the persons already mentioned. The text is Genesis, ch. xlix, verses 5-7, and the Calves Head Club is there referred to.

In the fourth place, I come to the applications, and here I shall consider, firstly, Who was murthered? Secondly, By whom? Thirdly, By what means? Fourthly, When? and fifthly, On what pretences? Firstly, Who? A man, a prince, a christian, yea, and a Martyr for the christian religion. In the second place, let us consider by whom? The answer is, by Simeon and Levy, brethren in iniquity, by a prevailing party in Scotland and England: the one the Judas that betrayed him; the other, the Pontius Pilate that crucified him. It is by virtue of these principles that the Gentlemen of the Calves Head Club meet together upon this day, to stick their knives in a calves' head, thereby engaging themselves in an unitie to extirpate monarchy out of Britain, and to mock the devotions and humiliations of the day out of the Church. Those Gentlemen act and conform to the Covenanters' principles which took off the King's Head.

Yea, let me add another consideration, by way of question—Is not the Calves' Head feast as lawfull as the public thanksgivings which the Covenanters appointed for any victories they got when fighting against the king?

How was such a Club originated, and for what purpose? Is it still in existence, or has it long since become defunct?

June 8. DAVID GALLOWAY.

Archdeacon Todd has stated—Of our liturgy, as of episcopacy, Milton has often expressed his contempt. He is said to have been a principal founder of the Calves-Head Club, a festival which began to be held during the usurpation in opposition to Dr. Hammond and other divines of the Church of England, who met privately to lament that day, in a form of prayer, little different from what we now find in the Liturgy.*

The author of the Secret History of the Calves Head Club, 1703, 4to. observes—after the Restoration the eyes of the Government being upon the whole party, they were obliged to meet 'under the rose' with a great deal of precaution, but in the second year of King William's reign, they met in almost a public manner, and apprehended nothing. He adds—

Another gentleman who about eight years since went out of mere curiosity to their Club—has since furnished me with the following particulars. 'The Club, he was informed, was kept in no fixed house, but that they removed as they saw convenient; that the place they met in when he was with them, was in a blind alley in Moorfields; and that the company wholly consisted of Independents and Anabaptists; (I am glad for the honour of the Presbyterians to set down this remark;) that the famous Jerry White, formerly chaplain to Oliver Cromwell, who no doubt came to sanctify with his pious exhortations, the ribaldry of the day, said Grace; and that after the Table-cloth was removed, the anniversary Anthem, as they impiously called it, was sung, and a Calves-skull filled with wine or other liquor, and then a brimmer went about to the pious memory of those worthy patriots who had killed the Tyrant, and delivered their country from his arbitrary sway; and lastly, a collection was made for the mercenary scribler, to which every man contributed according to his zeal for the cause, or the ability of his purse.†

These Anniversary Anthems from 1693 to 1697 inclusive were written by Dunton's friend, Benjamin Bridgewater, a bookseller, and author of a now extremely rare volume entitled Religio Bibliopolæ, 1691, 8vo. The author of the Secret History records Bridgewater frequented the Black Boy in Newgate Street.

Little more is said of the Calves Head Club‡ beyond their

* Milton's Poetical Works, 1809, Vol. I. p. 158.

† The Secret History was reprinted in the original edition of the Harleian Miscellany, Vol. VI. pp. 552-559; and in Park's edition, Vol. VI. pp. 596-605.

‡ The Calves' Head Club appears to have been more reputably known under another appellation; Macky in February 1714, while describing the London Clubs, notices—The Hanover Club, like the Kitt Catt, also composed of Noblemen of the first quality, and officers of the army, affectionate and zealous for the succession of the Crown to that illustrious family, have their meetings as the former; they are as all the innumerable other Clubs, kept within this great City, prescribed by Rules, and have their President and Secretary. The Queen's day, Nov. 17, is annually observed still in London, by ringing of bells during the day, and bonfires and burning of the Pope at night. The last [in 1713] was kept with great solemnity, and I saw the proces-

continuing their anniversaries, till 1734-5, when the following particulars of a riot occasioned by their proceedings are narrated in the Gentleman's Magazine, 1735.

'Friday, Jan. 30. Some young Noblemen and Gentlemen met at a Tavern in Suffolk Street, Charing Cross; called themselves the Calves' Head Club, dress'd up a Calf's head in a napkin, and after some hurrahs threw it into a bonfire, dipp'd napkins in their red wine, and waved them out of the windows. The mob had strong beer given to them, and for a time they halloo'd as well as the best, but taking disgust at some proposed Healths they grew so outrageous that they broke all the windows, and forced themselves into the house, till the guards being sent for, prevented further mischief.'

The rare print entitled—'The true effigies of the Members of the Calves Head Club held on the 30th of January, 1734, in Suffolk Street, in the County of Middlesex,' presents a graphical illustration of this tumultuous proceeding.

The Hyp-Doctor, a periodical of that day observed—'It is an honour to the Dissenters, that we do not hear of one of their body who belonged to this ingenious and refined cabal. It must not be overlooked that if the report be right, the Calves' heads were bought in St. James's market; the double entendre was to have wit prepense; but methinks the emblem was wrong-headed; for how can a calf, which is a tame gentle creature, and incapable of sin, represent a supposed Tyrant or a bad Monarch? Some of the parties concerned were, as the Chronicles of Suffolk Street record it, sons of nobles of England, Scotland and Ireland, besides Commoners: but the transaction was carried on like Io in the farce, by a Bull rather than a Calf, by which it might appear to be more Irish than English, if you examine the criticism of the show. It was a sequel to Punch at the Masquerade, putting his Opera bills into the hands of some too great for a familiar mention; but neither the Haymarket Punch, nor the Suffolk-Street Puppet-show took: one was acted but once, the other was *not acted thoroughly the first time:* the people were the criticks, the connoisseurs, and corrected the play. We are now assured it had no plot, the head like Æsop's mask, had no brains: this may be true, but no credit to a tragi-comedy: it only proved they were no poets, and but indifferent actors. Was there none who bore a calves' head couped, as the Heralds speak, in his coat of arms? The device of the Escutcheon might be more significant than that of the Club. Such a proceeding might have been proper in a slaughter-house; but, perhaps, they were replenished with the wisdom of the Egyptians, who worshipped Osyris in the form of a Calf? 'Baa!' be the motto of this speculation. The Gens Vitellia, the Vitellian family at Rome, were denominated from the like. This adds light from Roman History.'

The Calves Head Club it is presumed ceased at this time.

TAKING A MAN AT HIS WORD.

Wright describing Venice in 1720, observes—There are several houses painted on the outside by Paolo Veronese, Pordenone, the Palma's, and other celebrated Venetian masters, with a little of whose works we are now-a-days so glad to adorn the inside of our houses. The paintings on these outsides are pretty much damaged: one would wonder indeed they are not all destroyed, considering how long some of them have been done, two hundred years, standing against all the vicissitudes of weather; besides the vapours always rising from the salt water, and resting upon them.

There is one house painted on the outside, by Tintoret; they call it 'Hands and Feet,' and as they tell the story there, it was upon this occasion, While Tintoret was making his draught upon the front which he intended to have been pillars and other ornaments of architecture, Paolo Veronese happened to pass by, and asked him—What do you do there drawing those lines? Make me hands and feet! Tintoret taking him at his word, altered the design, and made a parcel of hands and feet: huge colossal hands, bearing festoons of flowers and fruit. There are some whole figures too.

VANDERLEUR.—Can any of the readers of Current Notes give me information as to an artist Flemish or French, called Vanderleur? I have his name attached to a small highly finished picture, entitled 'The Student;' but do not find it in the biographies I have consulted, and conclude it, from these circumstances, to be little known in this country.

June 13. E. B.

N. Van der Leur according to the Chronological Tables was born at Breda in 1657; Deschamps says 1667, but this, in either case, may be a typographical error. After acquiring the rudiments of art, he went to Rome, before his twentieth year, and there diligently devoted his whole time to studies from nature, and in copying from the best painters, till he at length was accounted the best copyist in Rome. On his return to Holland he acquired considerable reputation, but although he might justly be esteemed a good painter of History, yet his imagination was cold, and his invention slow and difficult, so that it was rather a labour than a pleasure to undertake a composition. His most considerable historical work is the principal altar-piece in the church of the Recollets at Breda, but his excellence in portraits was so decided that had he confined himself to that course, he might have been without a competitor. He died in 1726.

UGONOTTORUM STRAGES MEDAL.

Wright describing the Sala Regia, or Royal Hall, at Rome, in 1720, observes, it has several large paintings in fresco; the Pope condemning Heresy, with S. Peter and S. Paul in the air, and several other figures by Geo. Vasari, who has inscribed in a corner of the piece, his name and country, in Greek,

ΓΕΟΡΓΙΟΣ ΟΥΑΣΑΡΙΟΣ ΑΡΕΤΙΝΟΣ ΕΠΟΙΕΙ.

There are other pictures by the same Master, and particularly three which represent the circumstances relating to the assassination of Admiral Coligni in the massacre at Paris, in 1572. That the memory of so glorious an action might not be forgotten, Pope Gregory XIII., caused a medal to be struck upon the occasion with, on the reverse, these words, VGONOTTORVM STRAGES, the Slaughter of the Hugonots. The medal is publicly sold in Rome at this time.

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sion of the Pope, the Devil, and the Chevalier St. George on that night, performed with great order, as also their being burnt at the expence of the Hanover Club at Charing Cross.—*Journey through England*, pp. 188-197.

JOHN MILLAN, at Charing Cross, the publisher of the original editions of Thomson's Seasons, was in his way a most extraordinary man, for beside being a bookseller of some eminence, he systematically collected an extensive museum of Natural Curiosities for his own gratification. He was a humourist, and of great strength in the arm. In his shop, he had a large Rhinoceros horn, which with extended arm he could easily lift by the point, to the surprise and discomfiture of all other persons, who deceived by the apparent readiness with which he raised it, were foiled in the attempt to achieve the same feat. As a man of excellent conduct and substance he maintained the respect of his fellow-tradesmen. Henry Dell, a bookseller in Holborn, in his poem, entitled "The Booksellers," printed in 1766, thus eulogized him—

> MILLAN deserving of the warmest praise,
> As full of worth and virtue as of days;
> Brave, open, gen'rous, 'tis in him we find,
> A solid judgment, and a taste refined.
> Nature's most choice productions are his care,
> And them t'obtain no cost or pains does spare,
> A character so amiable and bright,
> Inspires the Muse with rapture and delight:
> The Gentleman and Tradesman both in him unite.

Gough, in a letter dated March 5, 1772, describes pictorially the interior of Millan's shop, on an occasion of having visited it, as a book purchaser.

> Last night, in my return from Westminster, I penetrated the utmost recesses of Millan's shop, which, if I may borrow an idea from Natural History is encrusted with Literature and Curiosities like so many stalactitical exudations. Through a narrow alley between piles of books, I reached a cell or *adytum*, whose sides were so completely cased with the same *supellex*, that the fireplace was literally *enchassée dans la muraille*. In this cell sat the Deity of the place, at the head of a Whist party, which was interrupted by my enquiring after a copy of Dillenius in sheets. The answer was, 'he had none in sheets or blankets,' but only in the state of this I send, which I think is in a rich coverlid or counterpane; and as it has an Index of Species referring to the plates, you will not have the trouble of interleaving or writing in it.
>
> I emerged from this shop, which I consider as a future Herculaneum where we shall hereafter root out many scarce things now rotting on the floor, considerably sunk below the level of the new pavement.

Of Millan there is a rare etching by Harris from a painting by Roberts, 1780, which represents him as being then aged 80. He died Feb. 15, 1784.

His successors, Thomas and John Egerton, sold his effects on the premises, and named the House, the Military Library, Whitehall, opposite the Admiralty. John, who married a daughter of Lockyer Davis, the bookseller, opposite Gray's Inn Gate in Holborn, was a very superior man as a bookseller, and highly useful to the literati of that day. He knew books well, and his memory, more than usually retentive, was seldom at a loss, through the varieties of dates, sizes and prices. In the sale room as an auctioneer, he was conspicuously eminent, and placed the excellencies of a work very forcibly to the bidders. The arrangement of the Henderson, Wright and Pearson Collections, especially rich in the English Drama, suggested and induced the volume entitled Egerton's Theatrical Remembrancer, 1788; which is still a useful publication. This was the compilation of John Egerton; in business his activity and zeal were equalled by few, and in private life his character and conduct were highly exemplary. He died of a rheumatic fever, after a week's illness, January 17, 1795.

RHINE ROMAN TERRA-COTTA FORGERIES.

English, French, and German antiquaries and travellers, have, for some years been induced to make considerable purchases on the Rhine, of what were apparently genuine Roman terra-cottas; more especially at a place named Rheinzabern, in the Bavarian Palatinate. This Rheinzabern is well known to students of Roman archæology, as being doubtless the site of a former Roman settlement, and many an unquestionable *anticaglia* has been discovered there. These facts have led to the adoption of a fraudulent course of proceeding by some unprincipled persons, and modern fabrications of supposed Roman terra-cotta remains have been produced there to a considerable extent, and the museums of Paris, Munich, and Luxemburg having expended large sums in their acquisition, the supply seemed inexhaustible. The success however attendant on these forgeries induced a wider range, and at length, to doubts, as to the genuineness of the numerous products issuing from this prolific manufactory.

Recently, a vase from Rheinzabern, valued at one thousand francs, which came under the notice of Professor Braun, the President of the Society of Antiquaries in Rheinland, excited his suspicion. His examination and researches brought to his mind a full conviction that it was a forgery, and further investigations led him conclusively to the perception that not only was this vase a modern fabrication, but that the greater part of the asserted terra-cotta remains derived from that neighbourhood by the Paris, Luxemburg and Munich Museums were also spurious. Professor Becker, of Frankfort on the Maine, continued these inquiries, and notwithstanding the protestations of all persons concerned in the disposal or procuration of these terra-cottas, was induced to concur in the same conclusion. More recently, Professor Von Hefner, a member of the Academy, and a skilful antiquary, was directed by the King of Bavaria, to visit Rheinzabern in the interest of science, and his report has substantiated the fact of there being a regularly established manufactory of Roman Antiquities at that place. The process of the investigation by Professor Braun in the developments of these spurious industrial products, are detailed in the Twenty-third volume of the Transactions of the Society of Antiquaries in Rheinland, and a full account of more recent enquiries will it is said shortly appear.

MATRIMONIAL FLITCH OF BACON.

The origin of the claim of the Dunmow Flitch of Bacon is said to have been instituted in the reign of King Henry the Third, by Lord Fitzwalter, who ordered that 'whatever married man did not repent of his marriage, or quarrel with his wife in a year and a day after it, should go to his Priory, and kneeling on two stones in the churchyard, on swearing to the truth of it, demand the bacon.' Lord Fitzwalter must have shrewdly guessed his bacon was not placed in much jeopardy, as on the best evidence, the entries in several records, there were but three claims before the dissolution of monasteries, and including the claims in 1701 and 1751, there have been but three since.

A similar custom was formerly recognised at Whichnoure, in Staffordshire, but this appears to have been in conformity to an ancient tenure, and was certainly as old as 1336, 10 Edward III., when this manor was held by Sir Philip de Somerville.

In Ireland similar inducements in reward of conjugal propriety were presented in the olden day, though like most beneficial customs, seem to have passed into desuetude. The last notice known to the writer occurs in a letter, dated Kildare, July 4, 1767, of which the following is an extract:—

'On Trinity Sunday last, a year and a day from the celebration rites being then expired, a young couple in their neighbourhood claimed, and upon their taking the oath prescribed, and producing proper vouchers on the occasion, obtained a flitch of bacon from the rector of the parish. The report of the revival of that obsolete demand caused such infinite astonishment, and at the same time afforded so much diversion to many of the polite company who were on the preceding day assembled at the Curragh Races, that the bets ran high against the parties winning the unusual prize in question, and many of the knowing-ones of both sexes, who were unfortunately inexperienced in all the various arts of matrimonial jockeyship, were with the aforesaid rector considerably taken in.'

Possibly some of your numerous readers may be disposed to contribute to the columns of Current Notes other instances which may occur to them.

Windsor. A. P.

SOUND AS A TOP.—We say of a person who has fallen into a deep sleep, He sleeps like a Top; or, as sound as a Top! What reference can that have to a Top, the instrument of sport in our boyish days, when the noisy whirl, or the busy hum, would seem to be indicative of any thing but the stillness essential to repose?

Dalston, June 9. L. H.

The saying is derived from the Italian in which language, the word *topo* signifies a mouse; it is the generic name, and applied indiscriminately to the common mouse, the field mouse, or the dormouse, hence the Italian proverb—*Ei dorme come un topo*, or in English—He sleeps like a Top!

TWO POETS IN ONE FAMILY.

From its connection with a late distinguished Poetess, the following anecdote may possibly not be entirely devoid of interest to the readers of Current Notes.

The writer's father during a journey in Canada in or about the year 1819, formed one of a party of gentlemen, chiefly strangers to each other, who met round the dinner table of an hotel in Quebec or Montreal, I forget which.

Over the wine the subject of poetry was introduced, and after discussing the merits of the various poets of that and former periods, a trial of poetic talents of those present was proposed and agreed to, it being arranged that he whose lines should be decided to be the worst, should pay the dinner bill. The contest resulted in the unanimous decision that the effusion of a gentleman, named Browne was decidedly the worst. The unlucky competitor cordially acquiesced in the decision, expressing his readiness to pay the forfeit, and adding it would be unfair that there should be two poets in one family, as he was brother to Mrs. Hemans.

Leicester, June 16. LEICESTRIENSIS.

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE FRIEZES.

As much misconception prevails as to Flaxman's share in these admired sculptures, it may be proper to state, on the authority of a person then in Flaxman's employ, that Flaxman designed the friezes, and statues of Tragedy and Comedy. He modelled that of the Ancient Drama next Hart Street, and the figure of Comedy, which was placed in the niche, in the north-east front. He also cut the figure in Portland stone.

Rossi modelled, from Flaxman's design, the frieze of the Modern Drama, and the figure of Tragedy. He and his assistants cut that, and both friezes in Portland stone.

ART TREASURES EXHIBITION, MANCHESTER.

We are happy to find that the unparalleled Collection in the Museum of Ornamental Art at Manchester will not be dispersed without an honourable record of its existence. Through the enterprising spirit of Messrs. Day, a work consisting of one hundred prints in chromolithography founded on photographs taken expressly by Mr. F. Bedford, is announced for publication in fortnightly parts. The Text, which will consist of valuable Essays on the several Arts described, will be further enriched with wood-cuts illustrative of the subjects; and the names of Messrs. Owen Jones, Digby Wyatt, G. Scharf, jun., J. C. Robinson, and J. B. Waring, are satisfactory assurances that the useful portion of this publication will be properly conducted. The entire direction of the work is under the editorial care of Mr. Waring, and altogether we have reason to feel assured it will be a book of the most desirably useful, as well as of the most ornamental character. We hope that some means will be adopted of adding to the letter-press, a satisfactory and descriptive Inventory of the various Articles in the Museum at the Exhibition, which is not only already found to be essentially a desideratum, but a positive requirement in aid of all future archæologists and collectors.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXIX.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [JULY, 1857.

DE NYMPHA AD FONTEM DORMIENTE.

Hujus Nympha loci, sacri custodia fontis,
Dormio, dum blandæ sentio murmur aquæ,
Parce meum, quisquis tangis cava marmora, somnum
Rumpere. Sive bibas, sive lavere, tace.

Scriver says of this Epigram, 'Suspectam et sane mihi commentitium plane videtur,' Dormiŏ and sentiŏ occur in the second line, which an ancient Latin poet would hardly use.

TRANSLATION.

Εἰς Νύμφην παρὰ κρήνῃ εὕδουσαν.

Νύμφη κρηναία φυλακὶς παρὰ νάματι τούτῳ
Εὕδω, θελγομένη τοῖς παράγοισι νόον.
Ἢν δὲ πέτρῃ προσίῃς γλαφυρῇ, ξένε, μή με ταράξῃς·
Πιομένῳ σιγᾶν λουσομένῳ τε πρέπει.

The original Latin epigram, incorrectly transcribed from Burmann's Anthol. Lat. 1759, 4to. vol. I. p. 62, has already been printed in Current Notes, No. LXXI., p. 89,—murmura being there in the third line obtruded for the correct reading, marmora.

In Pope's translation in the same page, Nympha being a nominative, no stop should have followed the word Grot in the first line.

This reminds me of Howell's Doxological Chronogram, in Current Notes, No. LXXIII. p. 8., also incorrectly transcribed. The sense and metre require it to stand thus, as written by the author:

GLorIa LaVsqVe Deo sæ C'LorVM In sæCVLa sVnto.

The year is still the same, 1655.

Hawkshead, July, 15. D. B. H.

In what author, and to what character has the following line reference —

Did good by stealth, and blush'd to find it Fame?

It was supposed to have been Pope's, and referred to John Kyrle, the Man of Ross, but on referring it does not.

Worcester, July 7. B.

BLUNDERBUSS.—Dr. Johnson, quoting Dryden, observes, a blunderbuss is a gun that is discharged with many shots. May I ask, if any reader of Current Notes will help me to an etymology of the word.

Clifton, July 10. G.

Possibly it has none. Dr. Meyrick, Ancient Armour, edit. 1824, vol. iii. p. 103 n., believed the word to be a corruption of the German term donderbucks, or thundering-gun; donder signifying thunder, and bucks a gun.

MONKS OF LA TRAPPE.

Looking over a long list, a register of the monks of La Trappe, who died there 1667-1714, there are few names of any interest, and none distinguished by any literary ability, none who have benefited mankind by any intellectual emanation of mind or genius. I enclose three or four which I copied, presuming they might interest some reader of Current Notes.

Dom Armand-Jean le Bouthellier de Rancé, Abbé Réformateur, Diocese de Paris; fait Profession 26 Juin, 1662. Mort 27 Oct. 1700.

F. Alexis Grême, Ecossois; Diocese d'Edimbourg; fait Profession 31 Octobre, 1700. Mort 20 Mai, 1701.

D. Bede Lake, Anglois, Benedictin; Diocese de Chester; fait Profession 20 Octobre, 1698. Mort 30 Mars, 1704.

D. Malachie Blackburn, Irlandois, Diocese de Medy; fait Profession 18 Aoust, 1706. Mort 2 Octobre, 1712.

No other natives of the British Isles than the three last named are found in this obituary.

July 6. W.

NOTES ON THE KIT CATT CLUB.

The Kit Catt Club was associated for the purposes of maintaining the constitution of the country, and the exclusion of the Stuarts, and were all distinguished and honourable persons. Mackey in 1714, in reference to the infinity of Clubs or Societies in London, for the improvement of Learning, and the keeping up good-humour and mirth, states—of the first rank is the Kitt-Catt, commonly so called, because their original meeting was at the house of one Christopher Catt, of which the late great Earl of Dorset * was one of the first founders.

This Club can have but Thirty-nine Members, who are all men of the first rank for Quality or Learning, and most of them have been employed as the greatest officers of State, and in the Army, and none but are gentlemen of the greatest distinction in some way or other. All their pictures are drawn by that great master, Sir Godfrey Kneller, and kept in commemoration of that august assembly by their ingenious Secretary, Mr. Tonson. †

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* Charles Sackville, created April 4, 1675 Baron Cranfield of Cranfield, co. Bedford, and Earl of Middlesex, titles borne by his maternal uncle, Lionel Cranfield, Earl of Middlesex, to whom he was heir. He succeeded his father Richard, the ninth Earl of Dorset, upon his death in 1677, and died in 1706. His portrait is No. 13 in Faber's volume.

† Journey through England, p. 188.

The Duke of Somerset appears to have been the first to set the example of presenting his portrait for the decoration of the room in which they met; and Kneller, from his celebrity and position as an artist, was the painter employed. Dryden had already written —

Such are thy pictures, Kneller! such thy skill,
That Nature seems obedient to thy will,
Comes out, and meets thy pencil in the draught,
Lives there, and wants but words to speak the thought.

A particular size on this occasion was adopted, the canvas being thirty inches by twenty inches; this has since been designated "a Kit Katt," a term that retains its distinction among painters.

Horace Walpole observes, while enumerating the paintings by Sir Godfrey Kneller, "The Kit Catt Club, generally mentioned as a set of Wits, in reality the patriots that saved Britain, were Kneller's last works in the reign of King William III., and his last public work." They were in fact Statesmen especially devoted to the supporting of the principles established by the Revolution in 1688, and to the exclusion of the Stuart family. Tonson must have been early in the programme of its formation, since these personages, to whom he officiated as Secretary, held their meetings contiguous to his house of business, at a pastry-cook's in Shire Lane, named Christopher Catt, who excelled in making mutton-pies, which were regularly a part of the entertainment—

Immortal made, as Kit Catt by his pies.

When originally constituted is not stated, and but one of the engraved portraits, that of Charles Dartiquenave,* has the date of painting attached so early as 1702; showing that the Duke of Somerset's, and others undated, had a doubtless priority in time, while the portrait of Thomas Hawkins, one of the Commissioners of the Salt Duties in the reign of Queen Anne, bears date 1715; and those of Richard Lumley, Earl of Scarborough, and William Pulteney, subsequently Earl of Bath, were not painted till 1717. These dates go far in support of the supposition that the Kit Catt Club continued beyond the accession of King George the First; and that these persons became members as vacancies by death occurred in the Club.

Their predilection for the House of Hanover appears to have given the Tory party, on the accession of Queen Anne, much annoyance and trouble, and as the members were too reputable to be attacked, William Shippen, a Tory satirist, in his Faction Displayed, 1704, contrived to vent his scurrility on their secretary in the following lines, by which he has transmitted a perpetuity of description of "left-legged Jacob," which Dryden the author quoted never could have imagined: *

Now the Assembly to adjourn prepared,
When Bibliopolo from behind appeared,
As well described by th' old satiric bard,
With leering look, bull-faced, and freckled fair,
With two left legs, with Judas colour'd hair,
And frowzy pores that taint the ambient air;
Sweating and puffing, for a while he stood,
And then broke forth in this insulting mood—
I am the touchstone of all modern wit;
Without my stamp in vain your poets write;
Those only purchase ever-living fame,
That in my Miscellany plant their name.
Nor therefore think that I can bring no aid
Because I follow a mechanick trade—
I'll print your pamphlets, and your rumours spread.
I am the founder of your loved Kit Catt,
A club that gave direction to the State:
'Twas there we first instructed all our youth
To talk profane, and laugh at sacred truth.
We taught them how to toast, to rhyme, and bite,
To sleep away the day, and drink away the night.
Some this fantastic speech approved, some sneer'd,
The wight grew choleric and disappear'd.

The portraits were subsequently engraved in mezzotinto, by John Faber, Junior, and published in 1735, with a title-page designed and drawn by Hubert Gravelot. The earliest date on the plates is 1731, Faber being then living "at the Green door in Craven Buildings, Drury Lane;" the latest in 1735, when he was residing "at the Golden head on the South side of Bloomsbury Square." The volume has the imprint on the title—Sold by J. Tonson in the Strand, and J. Faber, at the Golden Head in Bloomsbury Square.

Faber, in the dedication, inscribes the volume to His Grace the Duke of Somerset, "As this Collection of Prints owes its very Being to your Grace's liberality in setting the example to the other members of the Kit

* Pope has eternised this gentleman as a bon vivant, and he is consequently little known to posterity, but for his love of good eating and proficiency in the culinary science. Thus, in his Imitation of the First Satire of Horace, book II., he notices—

Each mortal has his pleasure; none deny
Scarsdale his bottle, Darty, his ham pye.

And again, in the couplet—

Hard task to hit the palate of such guests,
When Oldfield loves what Dartineuf detests.

* Some little bickering and hard words passed occasionally between Dryden and his publisher, Jacob Tonson, the latter of whom, in the requirement of a stipulated number of lines for a certain sum, appeared to consider that versification would flow as freely as water from a spring. On one occasion, Dryden was behind hand in the supply, and Tonson having refused to advance a sum of money, on account of the work upon which he was employed, the poet dispatched a second message, part of which was the following triplet—

With leering look, bull-fac'd and freckled fair,
With two left legs, with Judas colour'd hair,
And frowzy pores that taint the ambient air;

adding, Tell the dog, that he who wrote these lines, can write more! They had the desired effect, and the money required was immediately advanced; but Tonson is supposed to have shewn Dryden's lines in his manuscript, and hence their notoriety. Pope in his Dunciad also alludes to this awkwardness in Tonson's gait, describing him as 'left-legged Jacob.'

Catt-Club of honouring Mr. Tonson with their Pictures, and as your Grace has ever been eminently distinguished by that noble Principle, for the support of which that Association was known to have been formed, the Love of your Country, and the Constitutional Liberty thereof; but more especially as the Arts and Sciences have always found in your Grace a most illustrious and indulgent Patron."

The portraits of the members of the Kit Catt Club have this order in Faber's volume.

The title page, engraved by Faber, 1735.

1. Sir Godfrey Kneller, Se Ipse pinx.
2. Charles Seymour, Duke of Somerset.
3. Charles Lenox, Duke of Richmond.
4. Charles Fitz Roy, Duke of Grafton.
5. William Cavendish, Duke of Devonshire.
   John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough.
6. John Montagu, Duke of Montagu. Painted 1709.
7. Evelyn Pierpoint, Duke of Kingston. 1709.
8. Thomas Holles Pelham, Duke of Newcastle, and Henry Clinton, Earl of Lincoln, folded plate.
9. Charles Montague, Duke of Manchester.
10. Lionel Cranfield Sackville, Duke of Dorset.
11. Thomas Wharton, Marquis of Wharton.
12. Theophilus Hastings, Earl of Huntingdon.
13. Charles Sackville, Earl of Dorset.
14. Algernon Capel, Earl of Essex. Painted 1705.
15. Charles Howard. Earl of Carlisle.
16. Richard Boyle, Earl of Burlington.
17. James Berkeley, Earl of Berkeley. Painted 1717.
18. Francis Godolphin, Earl of Godolphin.
19. Charles Montague, Earl of Halifax.
20. James Stanhope, Earl Stanhope.
21. Spencer Compton, Earl of Wilmington.
22. Richard Temple, Viscount Cobham.
23. Charles Mohun, Lord Mohun. Painted 1707.
24. Charles Cornwallis, Lord Cornwallis.
25. John Vaughan, Earl of Carberry.
26. John Somers, Baron of Evesham.
27. Richard Boyle, Viscount Shannon.
28. Sir Robert Walpole.
29. Sir John Vanbrugh.
30. Sir Samuel Garth, M.D.
31. Sir Richard Steele, Knt.
32. John Tidcomb, Esq.
33. William Pulteney, Esq. Painted 1717.
34. Joseph Addison, Esq.
35. George Stepney, Esq.
36. Abraham Stanyan, Esq.
37. John Dormer, Esq.
38. Edmund Duneh, Esq.
39. William Walsh, Esq.
40. William Congreve, Esq. Painted 1709.
    Charles Dartiquenave, Esq. Painted 1702.
41. Thomas Hopkins, Esq. Painted 1715.
42. Arthur Maynwaring, Esq.
43. Mr. Jacob Tonson, holding in right hand a folio volume inscribed—Milton's Paradise Lost.

The year when each was painted is possibly marked on each picture: the above dates are those denoted on Faber's plates.

Three of these paintings, Nos. 12, 27 and 39, present the face only of each individual; it is no aspersion of the artist to doubt the reason why these pictures were not finished, as evidently they paid him for nothing beyond the first sitting.

On the dissolution of the Kit Catt Club the paintings became the property of Jacob Tonson, their secretary, who built a new room for their reception at his villa, at Barn Elms, in Surrey, about six miles from London. Eventually the portraits were inherited by William Baker, Esq. M.P. for Herts., whose father, Sir William Baker, many years an alderman of the ward of Bassishaw, in the city of London, married the eldest daughter of the second Jacob Tonson.

Jacob Tonson, the third bookseller of the name, served the office of High Sheriff for the county of Surrey in 1750; and in 1759 paid the customary fine for being excused to serve as Sheriff of London and Middlesex. He conducted his business with great liberality in the same shop which had been so many years possessed by his father and great uncle, opposite Catherine Street, in the Strand; but some years before his death moved to a new house he had built on the other side, now No. 345, near Catherine Street, where he died without issue, March 31, 1767.* The house was then Mr. Hodsoll's, the banker, and here remained a large depositary of Pope's and other letters, the correspondence of the Tonsons, to which latterly no particular attention being paid, the whole disappeared, and was destroyed, it was said, by the servants.

LANSDOWNE COLLECTION OF MANUSCRIPTS.

When and upon what valuation were the Lansdowne Manuscripts purchased for the British Museum?

Liverpool, July 5.

At the close of the year 1807, Mr. Planta, then Principal Librarian, estimated their value in the following sums:

	M.
Burleigh and Cecil Papers, 120 volumes and parcels at 10*l.*	1200
Sir Julius Cæsar's Papers, 50 vols., at 10*l.*	500
Abbey Cartularies and Registers, 27 vols., at 10*l.*	270
Miscellaneous Manuscripts, 150 vols, at 5*l.*	750
Others, 985 vols., at 2*l.*	1970
Royal Letters, forty numbers, at 5*l*	200
Chinese Drawings, 8 vols., at 10*l.*	80
	4970

Two other parties valued them, and upon an average of these three valuations, they were purchased by Parliament for 4,925*l.*

The Petty papers, amounting to fifteen volumes, were reserved by the Family.

* In May, 1767, George Vandergucht, at the Golden Head, in Great Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, announced by advertisement, for sale:—

A few sets of the first impressions of the KITT CATT CLUB, done by Faber, from the original pictures painted by Sir Godfrey Kneller, being Portraits of the Great Men in the Reigns of King William and Queen Anne.

THE COWS IN THE GREEN PARK.

The cows in the Green Park were once a greater nuisance than those in Hyde Park are now deemed, but the interests of certain officials predominate beyond the consideration of public convenience. Their withdrawal from the Green Park was effected by the poet Rogers, with no little tact; and the mode of his so doing was thus narrated by himself to a friend, who was standing one fine spring morning at his drawing-room window overlooking the Green Park. Talking with him of old times, Rogers, like a poet of Memory, lamented the days which were past, but one change alone he did not regret—the cows had gone.

I procured, said the poet, the removal of the cows, and in this way. Duncannon, when at the Woods, was standing where you are now standing. I brought him to the spot. Now, I said, I want these cows turned out. Are they not pastoral and pretty? said Duncannon; you like a Cuyp with cows—you like a Sidney Cooper with them. True, I replied, and I love cream and milk, and even buttermilk, and I like cows in Devonshire and Alderney; but I do not like cows in the Green Park. Observe, I said, the particular liking which cows exhibit for unnecessarily manuring gravel walks. Three cows full of the pasture passed as I spoke, and illustrated my argument; and then two ladies in flowered muslins passed by, picking their way along the path made so provokingly dirty at that very moment by these very cows. Enough, said his Lordship, the cows shall go! And the cows went—there are no cows now to be seen. What a beautiful Park!

LETTER OF SIR DAVID WILKIE, R.A.

Frankfort Castle, King's County,
Ireland, Sept. 9, 1835.

Sir,—The esteemed letter of my friend Mr. J. Stark, Norwich, 25th August, I have just now only received on my return from the west of Ireland, and as he has requested, I take the liberty of writing to you as Chairman of the Committee of the Subscribers to the proposed Portrait of Mr. Turner, the ex-mayor of Norwich, and in doing so beg to assure you, that I feel most highly honored by the proposal made to me, that I should paint the picture, which I should have been most happy to have undertaken, but at present I am so circumstanced with the Pictures actually in hand for the next two years, that I could not hope to begin the Picture within such time as would be satisfactory to the subscribers, and must therefore with every feeling of respect, and with best thanks for the handsome compliment paid to me on the proposal from the Committee, request that you will assure them that I am under the reluctant necessity of declining to undertake the Commission.

Requesting you will excuse the delay my absence from London has occasioned,

I have the honor to be,
Sir, your very faithful and obliged Servant,
DAVID WILKIE.

Henry Raven Priest, Esq.

Translation of Rev. William Hildyard's Tetrastich, Current Notes, No. 78, p. 41.

TO VICTORIA.

Pride of our Isle! Shoot of a Royal Stem!
Thou noblest Prize to us all price above,
O'er loyal hearts long wear thy Diadem,
Blest in thy Consort's and thy Children's Love!

The following unpublished lines on the same subject, were written in June, 1837.

AUGUSTISSIMÆ MAJESTATI BRITANNIARUM REGINÆ POTENTISSIMÆ VICTORIÆ.

Regia Guelphi, tuæ spes optatissima Gentis!
O! Patriæ vivax Gloria, Guelphi, tuæ!
O! CIVI ORTA!* diu regnes, VICTORIA, victrix,
Hostibus et terror Sceptra Britanna geras.
Et plus quam Patriis Solium virtutibus ornes;
Ornes Maternis, ulteriusque tuis.
Utque piæ quondam 'Decus et Tutamen' Elisæ
Patria debuerat, debeat omne tibi.
Auspice te fugiat Discordia et optet honeste
Quærere laudandus Exagitator opes.
Plebs Legum monitus servet. Sic gaudia læto
Auspice te populo Copia Paxque ferant.
Et colus et fusus vigeant cum pectine crebro,
Stamineumque manus plurima denset opus.
Vector securus pandat sua carbasa ventis,
Et scateant toto vela Britanna mari.
Et qua terra patet pateant Commercia nostra,
Et premat externa navita merce ratem.
Ruricolis cumulentur opes, et aratra nitescant;
Rideat et Cereris munere cultus ager.
Ingenuas artes servet Themis integra; fraudes
Causidici pereant, et Fora lite vacent.
Religio vigeat, custos fidissima veri,
Religio Angliaci gloria magna soli.
Cui cecidere Duces, maduerunt sanguine campi,
Martyriique pii sæva tulere Patres.
Tartareaque tegat, Fæcis pertæsa Latinæ,
Cæca Superstitio nube pudore caput.
Nomen amet Gens fida tuum sine fine, tuasque
Eximias Laudes tempus ad astra vehat.
Norint arma Getæ, norint et Seres et Indi,
Norint Gætuli, Sarmaticusque sinus,
Et qua præcipitant septemplicis ostia Nili,
Et qua exusta Rubro tunditur ora mari.
Omne triumphatum littus tibi Nominis Omen
Experietur, ubi Sol regit orbe diem.
Teque adeo—Omnipotens! nostris, precor, annue votis,
Fac, Deus! eveniat serius iste dies —
Teque adeo, postquam Numen revocaverit ad se,
Sanguinis excipiat maximus ordo tui!

Hawkshead, 1837. D. B. H.

* CIVI ORTA, anagram: VICTORIA.

GEORGIAN ERA.—Who was the Editor, Compiler, or Author of the Collection of Biographies, published under this title, by Vizetelly, in 1833?

LECTOR.

ANGELS VISITS.—In Current Notes, April 1856, p. 40, is a query regarding the author of the oft-quoted line—

Like angels' visits, few and far between.

The querist is referred to Campbell's Pleasures of Hope, who is supposed to have borrowed the idea from Blair, author of the inimitable poem, entitled "The Grave," first published in 1743; but it would seem to have had a much earlier origin. In Hanna's Memoirs of Chalmers, 12mo edition, vol. i. p. 420, is inserted a letter from James Montgomery, the Sheffield poet, referring to a visit made to him in 1817, by the celebrated Scottish divine, Dr. Chalmers, in which he states—'An Angel's visit, short and bright' it was to me; and then subjoined is the following foot note —

I have borrowed this phrase neither from Blair nor Campbell, but from John Norris, of the Seventeenth Century:

How fading are the joys we dote upon!
Like apparitions seen and gone;
But those which soonest take their flight,
Are the most exquisite and strong;
Like Angels' visits, short and bright,
Mortality's too weak to bear them long.

July 1. DAVID GALLOWAY.

HASWELL.—Having seen in your Notes of the Month, a paragraph seeking some information respecting the family name of Haswell, I beg to send you the following information in reference to my family, which I obtained at different times in conversation with my late father, Robert Haswell.

My great great-grandfather was an Englishman, of what family I know not, who settled at Jedburgh, of which town, the family at that time spelling the name Hasswell, were Provosts.

My father was the youngest of a family consisting of five sons and one daughter. The two eldest sons died early in life. The third brother, James, settled at Alnwick, as a medical man, and was surgeon to the Duke of Northumberland; he died unmarried. John, the fourth brother, distinguished himself under Lord Cochrane, and died a post-captain—married, but had no children.

I with my four sons are now the only representatives of the Jedburgh Hasswells; all the other male branches of the family being dead.

Vienna, July 4. J. HASWELL.

TOMB OF Q. KATHARINE PARR.

The tomb of this Queen is now about to be restored; can any of your Correspondents inform me where there is any drawing or engraving of it, or furnish me with any particulars relating to her funeral, beyond those narrated in the ninth volume of the Archæologia?

I should also be extremely obliged for an account of any relics or authenticated portraits, which may have come under the notice of some of your readers, or any historical facts which have not already been referred to in Miss Strickland's Life of Katharine Parr.

July 8. E. D.

ANDREA FERARA SWORD BLADES.

A sword in excellent preservation, with ANDREA FERARA impressed or stamped near the hilt, twice on each side of the blade, has lately been bequeathed to me. Can any of the readers of Current Notes inform me who Andrea Ferara was, where he lived, at what date, and wherein lies his celebrity, or where I shall find any information regarding him?

Twynholm, July 11. J. M.

Andrea Ferara appears to have been the name of a sword manufacturer at Ferrara, a city of Italy, and capital of the exarchate of the Lower Po, on the frontiers of the Venetian States. Formerly it was entitled to much greater distinction than now; Ariosto was buried there in the Benedictine convent; and Tasso was confined as an idiot in the Hospital of St. Anne.

The forms of arms and armour in the olden day were in all countries very much the same, the fashions taking their rise in Italy, and passing through Germany and France into Britain. All the splendid suits in use in our island were procured from Italy and Germany; and as Milan in the former held the first rank, Nuremberg on the Maine and Heilbroun on the Necker were most celebrated in the latter. The excellence of Milan steel is fully recorded in history, and in the sixteenth century there existed armourers of such celebrity that their names have been most honourably transmitted as artists and manufacturers of the highest eminence. Filippo Negroli, who made arms for Francis the First of France, and the Emperor Charles the Fifth. Giovanni and Antonio Biancardi, Bernardino Civo, Antonio Federigo, and Lucio Piccini, who were employed by the Farnezzi and the Gonzaghi families; and also Romero, who worked for Alfonso Estense the Second.

Hieronymo Spacini, another Milanese artist, deserves especial notice. Skelton, in his Arms and Armour, plate 53, figures the richly wrought target of the Emperor Charles the Fifth; on it is recorded an event of the year 1547, so that its manufacture was after that period, but below the centre ornament is engraved the name—HIER. SPACINVS. MEDIO. BON. FACIEBAT.

Grose observes, when defensive armour came into general use it was requisite to have swords of good temper, otherwise they would not only have been incapable of piercing or dividing the armour, but also liable to break, hence the art of tempering steel became in great request, and the names of celebrated swordsmiths and armourers were deemed worthy of being recorded in history; those of Luno, the Vulcan of the north; Galan, and the more modern Andrea Ferrara have been transmitted to us.*

So early as the thirteenth century, Passau on the Danube was celebrated for its sword cutlery, called wolfs-klingen, or wolf-blades.

Whence the steel of which the sword of Coucy, Earl of Ulster, was made is not mentioned, but Fuller tells us that 'in the presence of John, King of England, and Philippe Auguste of France, he with one blow of his sword cut through a helmet of steel, and struck the weapon so deeply into the post upon which it was placed that no one but himself was able to withdraw it.'

The steel of Bordeaux is frequently mentioned by Frois-

* Military Antiquities, Treatise on Ancient Armour, 1801, 4to. Vol. II. p. 262.

sart as all sufficient for armour. The Chronicle of Bertrand du Guesclin also attests evidence of its use for swords:

> Un escuier y vint qui au comte lança
> D'une épée de Bordeaux, qui moult cher li cousta.

> An esquire came there, who dealt on the Count a blow
> With a sword of Bordeaux which cost him very dear.

Of Andrea Ferara, or of Ferrara, no certain facts are known to the writer. The claymores, or straight broadswords, the blades of which bear that name stamped into the steel, are what are termed sheephead handles, from their form and supposed resemblance to the skull of that animal. Skelton, in his Illustrations of the Arms and Armour in the Meyrick Collection, in plate 65, figure 16, depicts what is there designated a Scottish basket hilted claymore, that had been presented by Sir Walter Scott; the blade stamped with the name of ANDREA FERARA, the hilt apparently of the time of James the First.

Arthur Wilson, in his account of that monarch's reign, says that Lodowick Stuart, Earl of Richmond, 'sometimes in a blue coat with a basket hilt sword,' paid court to Frances Howard, Countess of Hertford, during the lifetime of her husband, who died in 1621. Dr. Meyrick seems to consider this description erroneous, and observes, 'until some portrait shall prove the fact, there may be doubts whether the Spanish shell-guard might not be intended by this expression;' but it should be remembered Wilson was a contemporary, and wrote possibly of what he had seen.

In the same plate, fig. 12, is a sword, found on Naseby-field after the battle in 1645. The hilt resembling the Scottish broadsword, but the blade too much oxydized to discover the maker's name. Sir William Waller, in a letter dated Gloucester, April 12, 1643, applied to the Parliament for 'two hundred horsemen's swords, of Kennet's making, at Hounslow.'

In Scottish collections, and in various parts of Scotland, the Andrea Ferara claymores are occasionally seen, and are highly prized. The people's attachment to the fortunes of the Stuart family, ever a cause of misfortune to themselves and their country, even now induces these swords to be displayed and venerated as relics of the Scottish rebellions and raids in 1715 and 1745, but this is erroneous; the Highlanders had no means of obtaining blades for effective service but from abroad, and it is believed that in the wars between England and Scotland, long before the time of Mary, or her Solomon of a son, James the Sixth, the Scots obtained their choicest weapons by way of France. One of Andrea Ferara's make, dug or ploughed up on the plain of Philiphaugh, where Montrose was defeated, is now at Bowhill, in the possession of the Duke of Buccleuch; and another, that was doubtless sufficiently operative in the memorable fight of Killikrankie, is possessed by John Spottiswood of that ilk.

Dr. Meyrick, in the preface to Shelton's Ancient Arms and Armour, 1830, Vol. I. p. xxi. notices—Hyderabad steel is highly renowned, and so high is the value of well tempered weapons, that Sir Gore Ouseley states, the Nawaub of Oude in 1794, gave the enormous sum of twenty-four thousand pounds for a scymitar. The same writer assured Dr. Meyrick that the Naib or deputy of the Nawaub of Oude when he was in India, at the close of the last century, refused ten thousand pounds for an Andrea Ferara straight blade, because it had cut off the heads of several buffaloes.

These Notes have been hastily embodied as a reply to our correspondent, but it must be admitted are not very satisfactory. Any contributions other correspondents may feel disposed to advance will be heartily welcomed, the subject being one of considerable interest.—ED.

MERCHANTS' MARKS, AT FAVERSHAM.

In the church of Faversham, Kent, is a large monumental brass, about the verge of which is this inscription—

Under this stone lyethe buryed the body of Henry Hatche, merchant adventurer, late of this Toune and Lybertye of Faversham, Jurat, and one of the Barons of the fyve ports, whyche was duryng his lyffe a greate benefactor to thys churche, and to the towne. Whych Henry depted the xth day of May, in the yere of our lorde god a MCCCCCXXXIIJ, and also here lyethe the body of Julian the wyfe of the said Henry Hatche, which Julian departed the day of in the year of our Lord god a MCCCCC [lxxiv;] on whose soules Jesu have mercy. Amen.

Under a double canopy the figures of Henry Hatche and Julian his wife are represented.* There are no family arms, but he bears those of the Cinque Ports, the Merchant adventurers, also his merchant's mark or rebus, and the representation of a dolphin swimming, probably in allusion to his maritime pursuits.

Jacob, in his account of the Charitable Benefactions to the town of Faversham,† states that this Henry Hatch, by will dated May 6, 1533, gave after the decease of his wife Julian, several estates in Kent and Sussex, to the Mayor, Jurats and Commonalty of Faversham, and their successors for ever, requiring them to obtain licence of mortmain, and appropriate the rents and profits thereof to the use and maintenance of the haven and creek of the said town, the highways of and within the town, and of the ornaments of the parish church of the said town.

Shortly after Hatch's decease, the corporation, at a cost of two hundred pounds, obtained the licence so directed, and presently after as his heirs at law commenced a suit against the widow, but which terminated in her favour. Some few years after this Julian Hatch failing to induce the corporation to grant to her relation a lease of the said estates, at forty pounds per annum, for twenty-one years, to commence from the time of her decease, commenced a suit against the corporation to deprive them of this donation, and to support this iniquitous proceeding, produced and enrolled in the ecclesiastical court a forged will of her late husband. The suit lasted a great number of years, but the determination of the corporation established the legality of their claim, and the estates fell to the town uses upon the decease of Julian Hatch, in 1574, when the yearly

* Weever, Funeral Monuments, 1631, fol. p. 276, with his usual want of correctness, curtly states the purport of the inscription to be—Here lyeth Henry Hatcher, merchant adventurer, and Jone his wife, 1500.

† History of Faversham, 1774, pp. 131-133.

rental was 66*l.* 13*s* 4*d*;* Jacob observes at this time [*i.e.* in 1774] they amount to upwards of two hundred and fifty pounds.†

Faversham Church being very old and decayed, a faculty was obtained in 1754 to demolish and rebuild the same; it was pulled down in 1755, and on the rebuilding, the grave-stones with and without brasses were moved from the positions where they lay into other open and conspicuous places in the church. Jacob, however, in reference to Hatch's monument, observes, the large marble inlayed with brass that covers his remains, was so commodiously situated as not to require, when the late alterations were made in the church, any moving as others did, so that his ashes, and even the common earth which covered them were undisturbed, and the said stone is still very conspicuous at the middle entrance into the south aisle or transept.

In the same church is a figure in brass, of which the inscription is gone. From his mark it seems he was a merchant of the Staple. He bears besides the arms of the City of London, and the Haberdashers' Company. There is also a figure of a hawk jessed and belled, perched on a man's wrist, which was probably intended as a rebus on his name.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

The Foundation stone of Covent Garden Theatre was laid January 4, 1809. On the evening of Friday, 17th inst., after the day's labour of those employed in demolishing the walls had ceased, the stone laid over the Foundation stone was displaced, and below a piece of slate, within a circular cavity of four inches diameter, and about two inches deep, was a copper box. This contained the coins there deposited in 1809. The face of the stone inscribed in three lines in capitals:

LONG LIVE GEORGE PRINCE OF WALES.

Its position was below the pavement, in the wall, at the corner of the edifice in Hart Street, immediately opposite the doorway of the house numbered 52.

At the time of laying the stone in 1809, whoever was in attendance at the lowering the upper stone, in a frolicsome mood, introduced a farthing between them, and on the men shifting the stone it was instantly secured as a relic, intended to have remained there for ages.

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* History of Faversham, 1774, p. 134.

† Harris, History of Kent, 1719, fol. p. 122, referring to this benefaction, describes it as 'an estate of 180*l.* per annum, lying in Icklesham, near Hastings, in Sussex.

The same writer notices—'On the north side of the chancel is an old fine monument and tomb raised, but there is no inscription about it'—on the margin of a large paper copy of the work is added in manuscript—except this:

Whoso him bethoft, inwardly and oft,
How hard it were to flitt, from bed unto the pitt,
From pitt unto pain that ne'er shall cease again,
He woud not do one sin, all the world to winn.

Sterne, in his Sentimental Journey, has the following beautiful expression—God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb. Is the idea the sole product of the Sentimentalist's brain, or was it suggested to poor Yorick while reading some other author's works, and if so, who was he, and where is it to be found?

July 1. DAVID GALLOWAY.

THE HAT COVERS ALL.

The wide-brimmed hats worn by English Ladies, including the entire range of grandmothers to granddaughters, still maintains the overwhelming tenor of a general adoption. In France, the national levity of character, more particularly prior to the revolution, when royalty itself expiated its follies on the scaffold, was frequently developed in the aptitude to accommodate themselves to the frivolities of an unmeaning fashion. M. le Comte d'Artois, afterwards the ignoble King Charles the Tenth, being in a field near Versailles, where a very pretty brunette was milking a cow, and singing a *sans souci* to each press of the teats, he insisted on and took a kiss. This honour of a salute by the king's brother, was duly acknowledged by her with a curtsey, while with a conscious daring of character, she smartly told the Count—Sir, if you mean to be familiar in my dairy, you must accustom yourself to bearing the burden of part of its furniture. So saying, she immediately placed the skimming-dish on Monsieur's head. The story was soon repeated with additions of all kinds, and as nothing was then so common in France, as to create a fashion from the most trifling circumstance, every man of the gay circle spontaneously obtained a hat, as nearly as possible resembling a skimming-dish, and the hat thus introduced, was promptly designated with the romantic appellation of—the Milkmaid's frolic.

The year 1776 exhibited some whimsical extravagancies in the fashion of the hat, as worn by those who were in attendance on the Court. Square hats, or hats with four points, for a time prevailed, and this grotesque-shaped covering of the head was worn by the petit maitres for their morning dishabille. Some innovators soon after introduced another form as a novelty, hats with two points; this, however, had a brief period of adoption, although the Duke de Richelieu dismissed his valet for daring to place in his hands a hat with four points instead of two. The English slouched hat, being in its turn introduced, wholly set aside the two former, and these fashions constituted the national business for one year!

QUEEN'S FOOL.—In the accounts of John Lord Harington, of Exton, as Treasurer of the Chambers to Anne of Denmark, temp. James I., Horace Walpole found an item—paid to T. Mawe, for the diet and lodging of Tom Derry, Her Majesty's Jester, thirteen weeks, 10*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*

TANTAMOUNT.—In Johnson's Dictionary, this word, signifying 'equivalent,' is designated a French word. Locke seems to use it in that sense—'If one-third of our coin were gone, and men had equally one-third less money than they have, it must be tantamount, what I'scape of one-third less, another must make up.' What other uses are there of the word, by which its original meaning may be deduced?

Cork, July 5. J. W. S.

The Rev. Edward Clarke, in his Letters concerning the Spanish Nation, 1760-1761, 4to. p. 199, while describing the churches in Segovia, notices that of St. Dominic, a noble gothic structure, built about 1406, having out in the stone beneath the cornice continued under the roof outside, a representation of the words TANTO MONTA in old characters; the meaning of which is, that when by the marriage of Ferdinand and Isabella, 1474, the kingdoms of Spain and Castille were united, they made this Spanish proverb —Tanto monta, monta tanto Isabella como Fernando; that is to say, 'Isabel is as good as Ferdinand, and Ferdinand as Isabel!' The only remark I shall make is, that hence comes our English word tantamount.

STATUE IN LEICESTER SQUARE.

Some years since, prior to the usurpation by the Great Globe of the garden ground in Leicester Square, was a gilded statue of King George the First. Has it been removed elsewhere, or what has become of it? Possibly some of your readers may be able to explain this matter, and who was the sculptor?

July 16. N. J.

Dallaway, in his edition of Walpole's Anecdotes, 1827, Vol. IV., p. 89, states—The equestrian statue of King George I. was cast in mixed metal by Van Ost, or Nost, and afterward gilded by him and his principal assistant, Adrien Charpentiere, for the Duke of Chandos, at Canons. The horse was modelled from that by Le Sueur at Charing Cross, and the figure of the Hanoverian monarch certainly an improvement on that of Charles the First. When Canons was sold in 1747, for the value of its materials, and its sumptuous ornaments dispersed, the statue of King George with its pedestal was purchased, placed in Leicester Square, and not many years since was regilded. It was understood that in the permission granted for the raising the structure for the Great Globe, the statue was in no way to be interfered with, that a spiral staircase was to surround it, as it stood, and the figure to remain in its position, when the Great Globe itself should leave not a rack behind. That stipulation appears to have been wholly set at nought; the statue was displaced, and some Irish labourers, who believed the figure to be of lead, hacked off one of the legs, but were unable to master its possession from the iron skeleton or frame work within it. It is now hidden in the earth, within the railing, opposite to the late Panopticon, from whence, if nothing is said respecting it, or a claim made on the part of the public, it may find its way, one morning early, to some Jew metal dealer.

Nothing goes down to posterity so uncorrupted as the games of children. *Dr. Arbuthnot.*

POOR JOE ALL ALONE!

Among an extensive series of engraved portraits collected by one of my family, in the last century; is a folio etching, inscribed '*Poor Joe all alone!*' I have been assured it is a rare print, and have referred to Bromley's Catalogue, who merely refers to Gulston's Catalogue, p. 71—no mean compliment to its rarity; and Noble is silent; possibly as beyond his period, the close of the reign of King George the First. As Current Notes is, I am confident, in the hand of many distinguished Collectors, it would confer on me a favour which would be gratefully appreciated, if any one of your correspondents will forward any elucidation in reference to Poor Joe?

Liverpool, July 12. M.

Poor Joe was a mendicant long well known in the metropolis, whose surname has not transpired. He used to traverse the streets, with a then remarkably long beard, selling ballads and matches, and occasionally diversifying his appeals by some tricks of dexterity, or sleight of hand, and in his patrol used commonly to utter in a plaintive tone—Poor Joe all alone! a term by which he was generally designated. He died at Ware, in Hertfordshire in July 1767, said to be upwards of 105 years of age. The house in which he died, he was known to have possessed some years, at times he sheltered himself there, though in common he lay about Town, in stables, hay-lofts, and other adventitious places, but is reported not to have lain upon a bed for more than fifty years. A contemporary notice states, that he died worth more than three thousand pounds, which he bequeathed for the benefit of Widows and Orphan Children, under the direction of certain persons named in his Will for that purpose. The print was probably a private etching.

FRENCH FUNEREAL HONOUR.

Béranger, the national poet of France, has at length paid the debt of Nature: he died on Thursday, 16th instant, at half-past five, p.m., and on Friday noon they laid him in his last home, lest the lamp which had so long illumined France should again flicker in the socket. He who had rejected places, pensions, and preferments, and declined to hold any intercourse with the Court, has been followed to the grave not by those whom he loved, but by those with whom he had no sympathy. Twelve cannon were posted in the Place de la Bastille, troops were echellonné on the Boulevard, in order to delude the people into a supposition the cortége would take that direction, and whilst those who would have honoured his transit to the tomb, were proceeding to this great and leading thoroughfare, the police were silently bearing off the body of the most popular poet France ever produced, along the back streets of St. Louis and La Roquette, to the burial ground of Père la Chaise.

The Prefect of Police has changed the name of the street, the Rue Vendôme, in which Béranger lived: it is in future to be called the Rue Béranger—the sword in this instance yielding to the pen! On parlera de sa gloire, however, elsewhere than in the Rue Béranger.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXX.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [AUGUST, 1857.

EPITAPH IN LIMERICK CATHEDRAL.

In the History of Limerick, printed for John Ferrar, bookseller in Limerick, 1767, duod., at p. 80, while describing the monuments in St. Mary's Cathedral, it is stated —

In the wall of the Vestry Room may be seen a curious plain inscription, which very few gentlemen can make perfect, as it is greatly abbreviated, and cut in old English characters; as it may lead others to a discovery, I shall give as many words of the inscription as we can plainly read.

Hic jac^{z} in tumuli fundo
Galfrid^{9}
An. Dni M, D, XIX.

Later, in the Appendix, p. 147, it is intimated—A copy of the old inscription mentioned in p. 81, for which no printing types could be procured, may be seen at the Editor's shop, curiously wrote and the abbreviations explained by Mr. David Mahony, writing master.

Mahony's elucidations appear to have been sold for illustration of the volume, as my copy has the leaf beautifully written, and subscribed by him.

Hiciac^{z} i tumuli fūdo sblat^{9} amūdo
Galfrid^{9} art: vethë^{9} q^{o}ndisti^{9}ecl^{ie}
xvj lucemaya req^{l}cetipace pptua
An^{o} ccif d$\bar{m}$ M^{o}v^{c}xix
Intu^{z}fie 8 $\bar{c}$aneq, hicdice8pr$\bar{E}$ane

Or in words in full length —

Hic jacet in tumuli fundo sublatus â mundo
GALFRIDUS ARTHUR veræ Thesaurarius quondam istius Ecclesiæ,
Decimo sexto Luce Maia requiescit in pace perpetua
Anno crucifixi Domini Millesimo quingento decimo nono.
In Tubis sic octavum caneque hic dice octo precum Eanæ.

The first four lines may be thus translated —

Intomb'd here lyes GEFFREY ARTHUR, this same Church's late Treasurer:
From this World translated in May, in the morn, on the sixteenth Day;
The fifteen hundred and nineteenth year, of our Crucified Sav'our,
Rests in perpetual peace.

According to ancient custom the fifth line bears this version:

Do thou incite the solemn Train, and with the doleful trumps proclaim
Eight times this mournful story;
Then to Eana oblation make, of eight prayers for the sake
Of his soul in Purgatory.

Cork, August 4. J. W. S.

LETTERS OF ANNE, COUNTESS OF BUTE.

The first of the Bute family was Sir John Stuart, a natural son of King Robert the Second, see Duncan Stewart's Account of the family of Stewart, but the polite Wood sinks the bastardy, and represents the Butes as descended from a lawful son, thus making them the male representatives of the Royal Family of Stuart.

The Earldom was a creation of the reign of Queen Anne: Sir James Stuart having been created by patent dated at St. James's, April 14, 1703, Earl of Bute, Viscount of Kingarth, Lord Mountstuart, Cumra, and Inchmarnoch, to him, and his heirs male for ever. He married a daughter of Sir George, 'the bloody Mackenzie,' as he was called by the Covenanters, and by this marriage the Bute family became possessed of the Rosehall estates. The Earl died at Bath, June 4, 1710, whence his body was carried to Rothsay, and there buried.

John, the second Earl, married Ann, the only daughter of Archibald, first Duke of Argyle; who by this her first husband was the ancestress of the Marquis of Bute, Lords Wharncliffe, Stuart de Rothesay, and Stuart de Decies. The letters of the Countess here printed from the autographs are interesting as illustrative of the then habits of ladies of high families—only think of a modern Countess ordering cheap "candells and salt petter." Were any unfortunate Peeress to venture on looking into household matters now-a-days, what a sensation it would create! Think of a modern Countess of Bute travelling by the mail-coach, her footman being on the top with the luggage! Why, even with the aid of railway travelling, there would be a van for the luggage, lady's maid, etc., etc., etc., ad infinitum; and yet the lady who travelled by the coach, and studied economy in her establishment, was a Duke's daughter.

The person to whom these letters were addressed, was James Anderson, whose Diplomata Scotiæ are well known to Scottish antiquaries. The Countess's spelling is most abominable, but in this she was not singular, as most of her cotemporaries were equally deficient in that respect. The notorious Colonel Charteris was distinguished for his vicious orthography, he nevertheless contrived to amass great wealth, which was carried into the family of Wemyss, by the marriage of his only daughter to the fourth Earl. Her ladyship was the great-grandmother of the present Earl of Wemyss, who is thus the Colonel's heir of line.

The first letter is superscribed—To Mr. Anderson, To the care of Mr. Thomas Paterson, Att the Crowne and Stare Coffee-house, Att foot of the Haymarket, London.

Sir,—I desire the faver of you to by for me 2 duzen of Molds for Candells, 12 of fours in the pound, and 12 of Long Sexes in the pound, and lett them be strong and very smoth within; and 1 pound of salt, and 1 pound of salt petter, the propertyes of which are to be very white, so that when you chose them, tak the whitest you can gett.

I would hawe them Come Doun with the plate (which I hope you will send as sone as possibl), take care in the packing of them that thay be no ways brused, for if they be, they will spoil my candells. I put you to this trobel, those things here being nather so good nor so cheep.

I am, Sr, your Humble Servant,

Edin., ye 5 of Jun, 1712. A. BUTE.

The post mark indicates the charge at this time, to have been sixpence. The second letter, addressed, "To Mr. Anderson, Postmaster att Edinburgh," relates to her preparation for travelling.

Sir,—I give yow many thanks for sending me my letter, and as to the Coach, I can't waite so long, so pray doe me the favor to hire a coach against monday or tusday att fardest, for pleas God, I entend to sett out from monday or tusday at fardest. be pleased to lett me know what you doe in this afair.

I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

A. BUTE.

The following addressed 'Mr. Anderson, General Postmaster, at Edinburgh,' is dated Munday ye 10 cloke.

Sir,—I give yow many thanks for the troble you are pleased to be att about the coach, but baley [i. e., Baillie] asks so dear, that I can't think of giving it. I must give yow furder troble which I'm ashamed of, but I hope you'll excuse it, being *(sic)* I know you will doe it better and cheaper as any other person.

You'l please asone as the stage Coach comes in, to send inquir if it be taken, and if it be not, you will put yourself to the troble to inquir about it. don't lett them know it is any body of qualety, call me only Mrs. Stewart. I shall want I beleve 4 pepils places. I have baggeg and a footman to goe one the coach, so let me know the condiscions, but agree fully so as they may not take up any of these 4 pluses, and asone as yow send me word, I will fully determain in it. I would rather goe this way as any other, so pray keep the bearer in toun til once yow may send the positive word if I can have 4 plases or how many three is the fewest I can have. Pardon this troble.

I am, Sr, your humble servant.

ANN BUTE.

The Countess was the mother of John, third Earl of Bute, who was born in Parliament Square, Edinburgh, May 25, 1713; of the Right Hon. James Stuart of Mackenzie, born in or about 1718; and of four daughters. The Earl her husband died in January, 1723, and she married secondly, September 19, 1731, Alexander Fraser, of Strichen, co. Aberdeen, a lord of Session and Justiciary; by him she had a son, named Alexander, born January 6, 1733. The Countess died at Strichen, October 9, 1736.

Advocate's Library, Edinburgh. J. M.

KIT CATT CLUB. In the list of the portraits of the members engraved in Faber's Series, p. 51 ante, an error has inadvertently crept in. Their order should be thus—

15. Charles Howard, Earl of Carlisle.
    Richard Boyle, Earl of Burlington.
16. James Berkeley, Earl of Berkeley.
17. Richard Lumley, Earl of Scarborough, painted 1717.

The quotation referred to by B. of Worcester, p. 49;

Did good by stealth, and blush'd to find it fame;

occurs in Pope's Epilogue to the Satires, line 135:

Let humble Allen with an awkward shame,
Do good by stealth, and blush to find it Fame.

Beverley, July 27. CAROLINE BRERETON.

The Editor has gratefully to acknowledge the same reference from J. K. R. W., July 27; CHARLES WYLIE; D; and W. B., Grove Street, Liverpool.

G. N. Y., Limerick, August 3, while kindly denoting the same reference, adds—'for many hours of interest and subjects for thought, out of gratitude to the Fair gatherer and disposer of other men's stuff, I would commend to your readers the 'Handbook of Familiar Quotations, chiefly from English authors,' published by Murray, for five shillings. A second edition is now printed, with an index.

In what author is to be found the line that has in its purport become an every-day axiom?

A little learning is a dangerous thing.

Norwich, August 13. R. F.

In Pope's Essay on Criticism, line 215. The quatrain proffers the admonitory caution and advice—

A little learning is a dang'rous thing;
Drink deep or taste not of the Pierian spring:
There shallow draughts intoxicate the brain,
And drinking largely sobers us again.

JOHN DUNSTALL, THE PLAYER.

A poor player,
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage,
And then is heard no more.

The following unpublished letter of John Beard, in Garrick's time the leading great singer at Covent Garden Theatre, of which he was one of the patentees, was addressed to Thomas Hull, the dramatist and player. It refers to the exit of John Dunstall, a player of some distinction at Drury Lane Theatre, under Garrick's management, and at the Haymarket, under Foote. A reference to the Kemble collection of play-bills has the memorandum in the tragedian's autograph—Dunstall died Thursday, December 31, 1778. Beard made his debut at Drury Lane Theatre, as Sir John Loverule, in the Devil to Pay, August 30, 1737.

Rose Hill, Old New Year's Day, 1779.

Dear Tom,—The loss of poor Dunstall affects me exceedingly. He was as just, as honest, as sincere a man as ever lived; the bluntness of his address served only

as a foil to every social virtue, which He possess'd in the most eminent degree; whatever he said or did was from the heart. He ate heartily, drank heartily, laughed heartily, and loved with all his heart. It may be truly said of Jack as of Paul—He knew no guile! Who ever heard him depreciate an absent Enemy, or flatter a present Friend? Oh no! his bosom was too full of the noblest feelings of Humanity to have room for the little polite arts of deceit or cunning; he had great theatrical merit, was indefatigable in his business, an honour to his profession, and as far as his power extended, a friend to mankind. He honoured, he succoured merit in rags, and despised unfeeling arrogance, though in the golden chariot of a manager. Such are my real thoughts of honest Jack. He is the subject of my meditations in my garden, my parlour, my bed; and if this sketch of his character appears tolerable in black and white, it is because the outline is just; we were nearly of the same age, and no wonder I indulge these serious reflexions on 'the Man of Worth,' and pay this little tribute of

An Epitaph
To the ever respectable Memory
of
JOHN DUNSTALL, COMEDIAN,
Who died December 31, 1778;
in the sixty-second year of his age.

A man by Nature, open, warm, sincere;
Whose Heart, scarce Death could cool, lies buried here.
Unpolish'd manners, rough as the northern wind
But half concealed a gentle gen'rous mind.
Firm in home-felt distress, at others woe
This manly heart would melt, the tear would flow.
Beloved from youth to age, by old and young,
Tho' flatt'ry ne'er disgraced his honest tongue.
Tried and approved by a discerning age,
His name shall grace the annals of the Stage,
Whilst Truth, which most he loved, shall tell,
Through ev'ry scene of Life he acted Well.
Go, gentle Reader, go! and if you can,
Live like this upright, downright honest man.

Dear Tom, *you know* I do not pretend to write, but *I know* you are my Friend, and by that tie bound to endure and conceal my weakness, and am sure, you will forgive the attempt for the sake of the motive. Live and be happy, my dear Tom, that I may be happy whilst I live; and tell dear Maria, that except yourself, there is no man living, loves, honours, and esteems her more than

JNO. BEARD.

My Charlotte bids me add all that's kind from her to both; a thousand loves to Dear Emmy, and tell her I will not lose my Christmas Kisses.

Hull was then living in Martlett Court, Bow Street, Covent Garden. Beard lived happily; died Feb. 5, 1791, in his 75th year, and was buried at Hampton Court. Hull pursued an even course through life, and survived Beard, till April 15, 1808, when dying in his 68th year, he was buried in St. Margaret's, Westminster.

ARMORIAL BEARINGS OF KENTISH FAMILIES.

Recently examining a volume of Kentish arms, collected by FILMER SOUTHOUSE, of Faversham, Gent., Additional MSS. in museo, no. 14307, I was induced by its great interest to the County Historian to take some extracts, which I communicate to Current Notes.

The arms, nine shields on a page, are emblazoned in their proper colours, on vellum; in some instances the place of abode of the families are inscribed above the shield.

On the first, in the upper corner, is written "J. GODFREY, Norton Court, January 13, 1707." Philip Carteret Webb appears to have been a subsequent possessor, as the preceding note is followed by one, by EDWARD JACOB, the Historian of Faversham, with the intimation of its purchase by him "out of Webb's library, in March, 1771." In the centre of the same page is a coat, Southouse of Southouse, tricked without denoting any blazon, viz:

Quarterly, 1 and 4, on a bend between two cotises, three martlets. 2, on a chief, a cross tau, between two mullets. 3, three bars, in chief three cinquefoils; impaling Lozengy on a pale invected, a sword erect, hilt in base on a chief, a fleur de lis between two cross molines.

Crest, out of a ducal coronet, a lion's head, the shield surmounted by a mantle arg., doubled gules. Below these arms is written—Purchased at the sale of Lord Berwick's library, May 3, 1843, no. 1736.

On the reverse of this leaf, the volume is entitled,—A Collection of Kentish Arms, extracted and drawne from not only Ancient Collections and Office Bookes now remaining in the Heralds' Office, but also from Church Windowes, Gravestones, Seales, and Windowes in Gentlemen's Houses, by me, Filmer Southouse of Faversham in the County of Kent, Gent.

Subjoined is the description of several coats of arms which I considered more particularly deserving of notice.

AKEHOLT. Quarterly, arg. and az., over all a bend chequy or and gules.

BASINGE. Azure, across moline or, over all a bend gules.

BODE, of Faversham and Bailey. Sable, two chevrons between three escallops argent.

BORGES. Argent, a fess chequy or and gules, in chief three crosses fitchy gules.

BYKNORE. Arg., on a chief az. three lions rampant arg., over all a bend gules.

BARNHAM, of Hollingborne. Sable, a cross engrailed argent, between four crosses argent.

CLEYBROOKE, of Nash Court in Thanet, Arg., a cross pattée gules.

CRUX. Arg., a pale sable, thereon an eagle displayed between two crosses pattée fitché, argent, all within a bordure sable.

DEATH of Dartford. Sable, a griffin passant or, armed gules, between three crescents argent.

DOGGE. Barry of six or and sable, over all a pale. arg., a human eye shedding drops of blood.

FOWLE of Sandhurst, Arg., a chevron gules, on a chief of the second, three mullets of the first.

THOMAS FAVERSHAM, Justiciarius et quondam Dominus de Graueny. Ermine, a fess chequy arg. and gules, in chief three lozenges sable, each charged with a cross bottonée gules.

GRAVESEND. Or, three eagles displayed sable, a canton ermine.

GREKE. Or, a trefoil slipped sable between two chevronels of the second.

HARDPENY. Sable, a chevron or, between three plates.

HILL, of Lewsham. Vert, three Talbots passant argent.

HUNT, of Bromley. Sable, a fess between three counter foils or.

NORTON, of Northwood. Gules, a cross potent ermine.

NOWELL, of Rye. Vert, three covered cups or, two and one.

PETT, of Deptford. Or, on a fess gules between three ogresses, a lion passant gardant or.

PIX, of Crayford. Azure, a fess between three crosses fitché argent.

SAKER, of Faversham. Sable, a bend engrailed between two bulls' heads couped or.

SARE, of Lenham. Gules, two bars ermine, in chief three martletts argent.

SEGAR, of Wrotham. Az., a cross moline arg., a chief or.

SILLIARD, of Ightam. Azure, a chief ermine.

SMITH, of Greenwich. Ermine, three bezants two and one.

SOUTHOUSE, of Southouse,* in the parish of Selling. Az., on a bend between two cotises arg., three martlets gules.

STANLEY, of Great Peckham. Argent, on a bend az., three bucks' heads, cabossed or, a chief gules.

SUMER, of Halsto and St. Margarets. Vert, a fess indented ermine.

THOMAS. Argent, three crescents gules, a canton ermine thereon a crescent gules.

THORNEBURY, an ancient family formerly in Favershame. Argent, on a bend engrailed sable, three roundels ermine.

UPTON, of Faversham. Sable, a cross patonce arg., charged in chief with a trefoil azure.

WALTHEW, of Deptford. Sable, a lion rampant armed and langued gules, between three mural crowns argent.

* Thomas Southouse of this family was author of the Monasticon Favershamiense, 1671, 8vo. He died and was buried at Faversham, in 1676, in his thirty-fifth year. His second son, Filmer Southouse, a man of learning and studious in the same pursuits for which his father was distinguished, collected materials for a History of Faversham, but died early in life, in his thirtieth year, in 1706. See Hasted's History of Kent, folio edition, Vol. ii. p. 788; and Vol. iii. p. 24.

WHITFIELD, of Tenterden. Argent, a bend between two cotises engrailed sable.

Lee Road, Blackheath, Aug. 6. J. J. HOWARD.

EXPANSION OF THE HUMAN MIND IN CITIES.

Somehow or other, amid the crowding and confinement of the busy town, the human mind finds its most free and fullest expansion. Unlike the dwarfed and dirty plants which serve to embellish our suburban villas, languishing like exiles for the pure air and more free sunshine which, far away in flowery field and the green woodland, infuse a beneficial effect on sunny banks and breezy hills—man attains his highest condition amid the social influences of the crowded city. His intellect acquires its highest refinement, and receives its attractive polish where the essential effulgence of splendour created by the brightened gold and silver is tarnished and lost by the murky smoke, foul vapours, and impurity of the air which ascends from all cities. The most admired or surprising emanations of human genius have emulously started into existence and progressed with irresistible vigour in an atmosphere where those of nature are prone to droop, and obtain but a doubtful or imperfect state of maturity. The mental powers exert a full robustness of condition where the cheek loses its ruddy hue, and the limbs their elasticity of step; where busied thought is seated with pale effect on manly brows, and the night watch, as with steady paces he threads his rounds, discerns the student's lamp emitting its glimmering light far into the silent hours accorded to slumber and repose. *Guthrie.*

The porcelain manufactory at Berlin was under the immediate control of Frederick the Great, and for his direct profit; but in this he was only on a par with other Continental sovereigns.

Quintus Icilius, a military officer often noticed with honour in the achievements under Frederick, but who was the son of a potter at Magdebourg, was on an occasion taunted by the king on the baseness of his origin, he retorted—There was but one step between a potter and a china-manufacturer.

LIBERAL AND CONSERVATIVE DEFINED.

When the terms Liberal and Conservative were almost unknown, and those of Whig and Tory designated the two great parties in the State, Sir Walter Scott, a staunch Tory, was once asked what was the difference between them—'Why, man,' laughingly quoth the Baronet, 'the latter is like a highwayman! he bids you stand and deliver, and you have some chance of saving your purse, if you have sufficient courage? but the former is like a pickpocket, he filches your purse at the very instant he is assuring you of his extraordinary honesty—the devil a chance you have with him.

THE TWO MARSHALLS, ENGLISH ACTRESSES.

John Dutton, of Dutton, co. Chester, Esq., who died Jan. 30, 1608, had, according to Sir Peter Leicester, 'a bastard daughter, Elizabeth Dutton, married to —— Marshall, chaplain to Lord Gerard of Gerard's Bromley; mother to the two famous women actors, now [1666] at London, called 'the two Marshalls.' What is known of these actresses, and are there any engraved portraits of them?

Chester, August 6. THOMAS HUGHES.

Few particulars are known of Ann and Rebecca Marshall the daughters of Stephen Marshall, the presbyterian, whose saintly precepts appear in his own family to have passed unheeded. Marshall's publisher was Thomas Underhill, and his son Cave Underhill, was one of the first company including Betterton and Nokes, collected by Henry Rhodes the bookseller, in 1659, to re-open the Cockpit Theatre, in Cockpit alley, Drury Lane. Cave Underhill was possibly the bellweather who led Marshall's daughters astray, as Downes expressly states, Ann Marshall did not join Killigrew's or the King's company, till after their commencement in Riding House Yard, Drury Lane, in April 1663. Rebecca, if not one of the company that season, was certainly there in the next. Pepys in his Diary, 1663-4, records —

Feb. 1. To the King's playhouse, and there saw the Indian Queen acted, which indeed is a most pleasant show, and beyond my expectation; but above my expectation most, the elder Marshall did do her part most excellently well, as I ever heard woman in my life; her voice is not so sweet as Ianthe's, however, we come home mightily contented.

The allusion is here to Ann Marshall; Ianthe was Mrs. Saunderson, of the Duke's company, who in the following year was married to Betterton. Pepys seems to have considered 'Beck Marshall' most attractive, and his adoration led him to notice her in preference to her 'elder' sister Ann. In his Diary, he mentions—

Dec. 7, 1666. To the King's playhouse, and saw the Maid's Tragedy, a good play, and well acted, especially by the younger Marshall, who is become a pretty good actor. In the following years, she is the subject of his warmest encomiums.

Sept. 11, 1667. To the Duke of York's playhouse and there saw part of the 'Ungratefull Lovers,' and sat by Beck Marshall, whose hand is very handsome. In the next paragraph, Pepys with a glorious chuckle relates —

Oct. 26. Mrs. Pierce tells me that the two Marshalls at the King's house, are Stephen Marshall the great Presbyterian's daughters; and that Nelly [Gwynne] and Beck Marshall falling out the other day, the latter called the other my Lord Buckhurst's mistress. Nell answered her—I was but one man's mistress, though I was brought up in a brothel to fill strong water to the gentlemen; and you are mistress to three or four, though a Presbyterian's praying daughter!

Feb. 27, 1667-8. Pepys praises the fine acting of Beck Marshall, in Massinger and Decker's Virgin Martyr; but seems a little astonished at her meretricious agency in the following notice.

April 7. To the King's playhouse. Mrs. Knipp tells me that my Lady Castlemaine is mightily in love with Hart of their house, and he is much with her in private, and she goes to him, and do give him many presents; that the thing is most certain, and Beck Marshall only privy to it, and the means of bringing them together, which is a very odd thing. His astonishment seems to have abated, for we find him again —

May 7. To the King's house, where going in for Knipp, the play being done, I did see Beck Marshall come dressed off of the stage, and look mighty fine and pretty; and also Nell in her boy's cloaths, mighty pretty; but Lord! their confidence, and how many men do hover about them as soon as they come off the stage, and how confident they are in their talk. The last mention of the younger Marshall by Pepys is but slight.

July 11. To the King's playhouse, to see an old play of Shirley's called Hide Parke; the first day acted; when horses are brought upon the stage. It is but a moderate play, only an excellent epilogue by Beck Marshall.

Hamilton in his Memoirs of Count Grammont, narrates erroneously the trick played off on a player of the part of Roxana, by Aubrey de Vere, Earl of Oxford; and Oldys in his History of the English Stage, compiled in 1741 to serve the exigencies of Edmund Curll's son, then blind; refers to Mrs. Marshall as the person alluded to. Evelyn, Jan. 9, 1661-62, notices this actress, who played Roxalana in Davenant's third part of the Siege of Rhodes, in the Duke's company. She was the younger of the two Davenports, and by her connexion with the Earl ceased to be a player. This is simply explained to clear the error generally entertained respecting the elder Marshall, who was of Killigrew's Company.

No portraits of the Marshalls are extant.

LADY ANNE BOTHWELL'S LAMENT.

The territorial barony of Glencorse, for at least two centuries, belonged to the family of Bothwell, in whom, upon the death of John, the second Baron, in 1635, was vested the peerage of Holyrood-House. The title devolved on Alexander Bothwell, who married Mary, daughter of Sir James Stewart, a son of Robert, Earl of Orkney, and whose grand aunt, Anne Bothwell, a daughter of Adam Bothwell, bishop of Orkney, was the heroine of the beautiful ballad entitled Lady Anne Bothwell's Lament.

Poetical antiquaries had long advanced various conjectures as to the person of Lady Anne Bothwell, whose Lament is among the choicest gems of Scottish Song, and a divorced Countess of Bothwell was more prominently named; but, it would seem to have passed unnoticed that the Earls of Bothwell were Hepburns not Bothwells, and this perplexity continued until Father Hay, in his Manuscript History of the Holyrood-House family, dissipated all doubt upon the subject, by mentioning that the bishop had a daughter named "Anne, who fell with child to a son of the Earl of Marre." This Lady Anne, by the polite Douglas, as improved by Wood, is excluded from her proper position in the peerage; but the late Mr. Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe, whose knowledge of the naughty doings of former days has never in the north been surpassed, disclosed the fact in a note, p. 45, in the Household Book of Ladie Marie Stewart, Countess of Marr.

From the ballad it may be fairly inferred the seducer was a soldier; thus, Alexander, the third son* of John, seventh Earl of Marr, by the above mentioned 'Ladie Marie Stewart,' a daughter of the Duke of Lennox, was, unquestionably, the only soldier in the Marr family at this particular period. He rose to be a Colonel; and, strange to relate, actually met, as imagined in the ballad, an unforeseen and violent death, having been blown up, with his brother-in-law, Thomas Hamilton, second Earl of Haddington, and other Scottish military officers, at Dunglass Castle, August 30, 1640.

Balow, my boy, lie still and sleep,
It grieves me sore to hear thee weep;
If thou'lt be silent, I'll be glad,
Thy mourning makes my heart full sad.
Balow,† my boy, thy mother's joy —
Thy father bred me great annoy.

Balow, my darling, sleep a while,
And when thou wak'st, then sweetly smile;
But smile not as thy father did,
To cozen maids—may God forbid!
For in thine eye his look I see —
The tempting look that ruin'd me.
Balow, my boy, etc.

When he began to court my love,
And with his sugar'd words to move;
His tempting face and flatt'ring chear
In time to me did not appear;
But now I see that cruel he —
Cares neither for his babe nor me.
Balow, my boy, etc.

Farewell, farewell, thou falsest youth,
That ever kissed a woman's mouth;
Let never any after me
Submit unto thy courtesie,
For if thou do, O, cruel thou!
Wilt her abuse, and care not how.
Balow, my boy, etc.

I was too cred'lous at the first,
To yield thee all a maiden durst;
Thou swore for ever true to prove —
Thy faith unchanged, unchanged thy love;
But quick as thought the change is wrought;
Thy love's no more—thy promise nought.
Balow, my boy, etc.

I would I were a maid again,
From young men's flatt'ry I'd refrain;
For now, unto my grief, I find,
They are all perjur'd and unkind.
Bewitching charms bred all my harms —
Witness my babe lies in my arms.
Balow, my boy, etc.

I take my fate from bad to worse,
That I must needs be now a nurse,
And lull my young son on my lap —
From me, sweet orphan, take the pap.
Balow, my child, thy mother mild,
Shall wail, as from all bliss exiled.
Balow, my boy, etc.

Balow, my son, weep not for me,
Whose greatest grief's for wronging thee;
Nor pity her deserved smart,
Who can blame none but her fond heart;
For too soon trusting, latest finds
With fairest tongues are falsest minds.
Balow, my boy, etc.

Balow, my boy, thy father's fled,
When he the thriftless son has play'd;
Of vows and oaths forgetful, he
Preferr'd the wars to thee and me;
But now, perhaps, thy curse and mine
Make him eat acorns with the swine.
Balow, my boy, etc.

But curse not him; perhaps now he,
Stung with remorse, is blessing thee.
Perhaps at death,—for who can tell
Whether the Judge of Heaven or Hell,
By some proud foe has struck the blow,
And laid the dear seducer low.
Balow, my boy, etc.

I wish I were into the bounds
Where he lays smother'd in his wounds,
Repeating, as he pants for air,
The name of her he once call'd fair;
No woman's yet so fiercely set,
But she'll forgive, though not forget.
Balow, my boy, etc.

If linen lacks, for my love's sake,
Then quickly to him would I make
My smock—once for his body meet —
And wrap him in that winding sheet.
Ah, me! how happy had I been
If he had ne'er been wrapt therein.
Balow, my boy, etc.

Balow, my boy, I'll weep for thee,
Too soon, alas! thou'lt weep for me;
Thy griefs are growing to a sum,
God grant thee patience when they come:
Born to sustain thy mother's shame —
O hapless fate! — a bastard's name.
Balow, my boy, etc.

The peerage of Holyrood-House is in abeyance, and possibly, some day or other, an heir may come forward to claim it.

Edinburgh, August 3. J. M.

* Douglas' Peerage of Scotland, revised by Wood, 1813, folio, Vol. i. p. 680, erroneously described as the fourth son.

† Balow, a Scottish lullaby, or term used by a nurse when lulling her child, supposed to be part of an old French lullaby *Bas, le loup;* or as the Scottish term is sometimes pronounced, *balililow*, qu. *bas, là le loup?*—'lie still, there is the wolf, or the wolf is coming.' In Godly Ballates, quoted by Ritson, in his Essay on Scottish Song, this is written somewhat differently, as the name of an old Scottish tune, 'Followis ane sang of the birth of Christ, with the tune of *Baw lu la law*.'

Zachary Boyd, in his Battell of the Soul in Death, p. 308, observes 'Well is that soul which God in mercie exerciseth daylie with one crosse or other, not suffering it to be rocked and lulled with Sathan's balowes in the cradle of Security.

NOTES ON FLY-LEAVES.

On the last page of an edition of Cæsar's Commentaries, printed, Venetiis in ædibus Aldi et Andrea Soceri, 1513, 8vo., is the following contemporary manuscript inscription —

Robert Ellis oweth this booke,
God give him grace on it to looke.
The rose is red, the leafe is greene,
And soe God saue our kinge and queene.

This booke is mine, I doe it owe,
and soe farewell.

By me Robert Ellis,
Amen.

The Heber copy of the Editio Princeps of Athenæus, printed by Aldus, in 1514, folio, was on large paper, and had formerly pertained to Erasmus; it had his autograph, 'Sum Erasmi Roterodami,' and on the margins many notes in his hand. On the fly-leaf were the following lines —

Hæc Desiderii manus est, quam cernis, Erasmi,
Illa omni celebris, qua patet, orbe manus.
Hæc est illa manus, multis quæ Patribus ævum
Contulit, et Domino contulit ipse suo.
Litterulis magnum Auctorem venerare sub istis,
Quisquis es, atque ipsum crede videre Virum.
P. FRANCIUS.

In the Diary of a literary character was the following memorandum:

12th, I was obliged to have my poor old dog killed in consequence of his having been run over by a cart. I have had him upwards of fifteen years. Poor fellow!

Quando ullum inveniam parem?
Lacrymis ille meis flebilis occidit.

ÆNIGMA

Carmine Latino solvendum.

Pars prior est Signum, decies triginta,* triunum,
Et, quod mireris, ter tria plusque decem.
Altera sed nitido dives gratissima toto,
Et Fauno, et pecori Custaliæque gregi.†
Totus arat totum, tondet, totumque pererrat,
Canus et Arctoa stat nive, statque gelu.
Et totum pascit, totumque bibitque vehitque,
Filius et Nili, Pamphyliamque legit.
Stat vere in cœlo, volitatque per aëra pennis,
In fronte et cauda plurima gemma micat.
Phœnissam rapuit, Romæque ædilis et augur;
Et Siculis quondam causa timoris erat.
Tolle caput, reliquis decies tamen adjice quinque,
Fit gratum Phœbo Pieridumque choro.
Adde duplum, tumido fervescunt æquora fluctu,
Et fera Sarmatico turbine sævit hyems.
Multiplica decies, præstat Gætulus Iarbas,
Risuque in fusco perspicuum fit ebur!

Hawkshead, August 12. D. B. H.

* Sic Manilius, II. 322. † Conf. Lucret., II. 661.

RATCLIFFE.—Pittis, in his Life of John Radcliffe, M.D., founder of the Ratcliffe Library, Oxford, details the particulars of the Honours which were observed on the day of his funeral, Dec. 3, 1714, in St. Mary's Church, Oxford, his grave being as there stated, p. 85, 'on the south-east side of the organ.' From some cause that this was the exact position of the body was long a matter of doubt; but the following extract from the British Press newspaper, Thursday Sept. 9, 1819, affords some elucidation:

The coffin containing the remains of Dr. Ratcliffe, the munificent benefactor to the University of Oxford, was last week discovered deposited in one of the vaults of St. Mary's Church, in that University. The spot where he was buried was not before known.

LETTRE DE CACHET. It is stated the Lettre de Cachet was an order for incarceration in the Bastille; and I have heard it had a wider range. Can any reader of Current Notes briefly explain what was really the purport of the so generally dreaded Lettre de Cachet?

Glasgow, August 3. J. H.

A Lettre de Cachet was any written order emanating from the king, and expressive of his will; the term was not confined simply to orders for arrest.

WRECK OF THE ROYAL GEORGE.

The Rev. J. C. M. Bellew, Assistant Minister, St. Phillip's, Regent Street, in a sermon entitled Selfishness and Self-Sacrifice, preached for the benefit of the Cambridge Military Asylum, made an allusion to the late Duchess of Gloucester, born April 25, 1776, who died April 30, 1857 —

The Cambridge Asylum has lately lost its Lady President, who was indeed to it a Ruth, a constant unselfish, self-sacrificing and protecting friend. She was a soldier's widow. In her death has been broken the last link that connected us with the reign of George the Third. Such are the wrecks of death!

A piece of the wreck of the Royal George
For the people's pity and wonder.

Death which spares none, but hurries alike the poor soldier and the King's daughter to the Grave.*

The preacher in quoting these lines, observes, they occur in some poetry, written on meeting King George the Third on the Terrace at Windsor, when doubtless the majesty of mind was gone. That he had not for more than twenty years, met with the poem, and was alike ignorant of the writer, or where it could be seen. 'He believed it was attributed to Wolfe; for beauty and pathos it is worthy of the mind that composed the Burial of Sir John Moore.'

Wolfe was not likely to write such lines, or on such a subject; may I ask if any reader of Current Notes can point to the source from whence they come?

August 8. N. J.

* Sermons printed for W. and T. Boone, 1857, vol. II. p. 394.

TANTAMOUNT.—Another authority similar to that quoted in Current Notes, p. 56, occurs in Udal ap Rhys' Account of Spain, 1749, 8vo. p. 14, where speaking of the privileges formerly pertaining to the Arragonese, he notices one that related to the terms and conditions upon which they chose their kings:

The form was as follows, 'Nos, que valemos tanto como vos, os hazemos nuestro Rey y Señor, con tal que guardeis nuestros Fueros y Libertades. Si no, no.' i.e. We, who are as good as you, make you our Lord and King, provided you maintain our Rights and Liberties. If not, no.

This privilege the people of Arragon retained till about the end of the Eleventh Century, when it was abrogated by King Pedro the First.

Athenæum, Pall Mall, August 3. R.

UNIVERSITY BOOKSELLERS OR STATIONERS.

In the Partidas in Spain, the law respecting Stationers supplies some interesting facts. It was enacted —

Every University to be complete should have in it Stationers (*estacionarios*) who have in their shops (*estaciones*) good books, legible and correct both in text and gloss, to let out to the scholars, either to make from them new books, or to correct those which they had already written. And no one without leave of the Rector, was to have or hold such a booth (*tienda*) or shop. And the Rector, before he granted his licence, ought firstly to have the books of this person who would keep the shop examined, to know whether they be good, legible and genuine. And he ought not to consent that any one who has not such books should become a stationer, nor let out his books to the scholars, at least not before they have been corrected. The Rector ought also, with advice of others, to set a price how much the stationer should receive for every sheet which he lends the scholars to write from or to correct their books; and, moreover, the Rector ought to demand good bond from him, that he will preserve faithfully and well all books which are entrusted to him to sell, and not use any deceit whatever.

Tienda, here rendered booth, is still the word in use in Spain for those inferior shops where everything is sold. The word explains its own history. Every army had traders who followed it to sell provisions and buy plunder, and their shops were Tents. The word corresponding to *estaciones* would be *standings*, a phrase still retained in country fairs or markets. These are strictly speaking, booths; but when the Partidas were written, *tienda* denoted a booth, and *estacion* a shop, for trade was advancing, and its self evident improvement had created a new meaning to old terms.

Hence the word Stationer, now generally expressive of a vendor of paper, is a designation which would have been in every respect equally applicable to any other settled trade. R. F.

FUNERAL VERSES ON ANNE OF DENMARK.

Anne, daughter of Frederick the Second, King of Denmark, and wife of King James the First, died at Hampton Court, March 1, 1619. In a copy of Camden's Remains, third impression, 1623, 4to. p. 344, I once found a folded sheet—'Vpon the Death of Queene Anne, wife of our Sovereigne Lord King James. Funeral Verses written by William Swadon, of New College in Oxford, Doctor of Divinity and Chaplaine to Her Majesty.' The monumental inscription has an anagrammatical woodcut. The fact of having thus found it, and also twice in Munday's edition of Stowe, 1633, folio, between pp. 814-815, induces my suggesting to collectors to examine their copies of these works, as from the manner in which the sheet was placed in these volumes, it would seem that it was originally in both.

Oxford, August 11. P. B.

NAPOLEON THE FIRST.

Among the many adulatory assertions made on Napoleon becoming emperor in 1804, it was said that 'the man in the Iron mask' was no other than the twin or elder brother of Louis the Fourteenth; that his keeper's name was Bonpart, who had a daughter, with whom the Man in the Mask fell in love, and to whom he was privately married; that their children were baptized in their mother's name, and were secretly conveyed to Corsica, where the name was converted or perverted into that of Bonaparte, or Buonaparte, and that one of those children was the ancestor of Napoleon Buonaparte, who was thus entitled to be recognized not only as of French origin, but as the direct descendant and the rightful heir to the throne of France. It need hardly be said, that the whole is a fiction.

Again it is stated, the Bonapartes are said to have adopted the name of Napoleon from Napoleon des Ursins, a distinguished character in Italian story, with one of whose descendants they became connected by marriage; and the first of the family to whom it was given was a brother of Joseph Buonaparte, the grandfather of Napoleon I. The *jeux de mot* which have been made on the name are many, but one noticed in *Litterature Française Contemporaine*, Vol. ii. p. 266, is deserving of note.

The word Napoleon being written in Greek characters will form seven different words, by dropping in succession the first letter of each. Thus Ναπολεων, Απολεων, Ρολεων, Ολεων, Λεων, Εων, Ων. These words constitute a complete sentence, and are thus translated into French—Napoléon, étant le lion des peuples, allait détruisant les cités. M.

BRANDENBURG WINE.—The boors or country people near Frankfort, Brandenburg, and Berlin, in the seventeenth century, bragged so much of their vineyards and wine, which notwithstanding were so execrable, that their neighbours in Upper Saxony were wont to frighten their young children to school by threatening to otherwise make them drink Brandenburg Wine.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXXI.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [SEPTEMBER, 1857.

JOHNSON'S RESIDENCE IN INNER TEMPLE LANE.

Dr. Johnson's three last residences in the metropolis were No. 1, Inner Temple Lane, No. 7, Johnson's Court, and No. 8, Bolt Court, Fleet Street, where he died. The last has gone; and the former will soon pass. The whole of the building materials of the houses on the west side of Inner Temple Lane are advertised for sale on October 1, immediate demolition to follow, and among them the house in which Johnson resided for some years. Sir John Hawkins observes—Johnson was now become so well known, and had by the Rambler, and other of his writings, given such evidences, not only of great abilities, and of his skill in human life and manners, but of a sociable and benevolent disposition, that many became desirous of his acquaintance, and to this they were further tempted by the character he had acquired of delighting in conversation, and being free and communicative in his discourse. He had removed [from Gray's Inn] about the beginning of the year 1760, to chambers two doors down the Inner Temple-lane, and I have been told by his neighbour at the [opposite] corner, that during the time he dwelt there, more enquiries were made at his shop for Mr. Johnson, than for all the inhabitants put together of both the Inner and Middle Temple.* But it would seem, Johnson was resident there in 1759. Francis Barber, Johnson's former black servant, but had left his service, had been taken by a press-gang, and sent on board the Stag frigate; Johnson on hearing this was greatly distressed, and Smollett, by letter to Wilkes, dated Chelsea, March 16, 1759, implored his aid to set him free. Wilkes instantly applied to his friend, Sir George Hay, then one of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and Francis Barber, without any wish of his own, was discharged. He found his old master, Johnson, in chambers in the Inner Temple, and returned to his service.†

Boswell relates an amusing incident.—One night, when Beauclerk and Langton had supped at a Tavern, and sat there till about three in the morning, it came into their heads to go and knock up Johnson, and see if they could prevail on him to join them in a ramble. They rapped violently at the door of his chambers in the Temple, till at last he appeared in his shirt, with his little black wig on the top of his head instead of a night cap, and a poker in his hand, imagining, probably, that some ruffians were coming to attack him. When he discovered who they were, and was told their errand, he smiled, and with great good humour agreed to their proposal. 'What! is it you, you dogs? I'll have a frisk with you!' He was soon dressed, and they sallied together into Covent Garden, where the green-grocers and fruiterers were beginning to arrange their hampers, just come in from the country. Johnson made some attempts to help them, but the honest gardeners stared so at his figure and manner, and his odd interference, that he soon saw his services were not relished. They then repaired to one of the neighbouring taverns, and made a bowl of Bishop, a liquor so called, which Johnson had always liked; and he, while in joyous contempt of sleep, from which he had been roused, repeated the festive lines —

> Short, O short then be thy reign,
> And give us to the world again.*

They did not stay long, but walked down to the Thames, took a boat, and rowed to Billingsgate. Beauclerk and Johnson were so well pleased with their amusement, that they resolved to persevere in dissipation for the rest of the day; but Langton being engaged to breakfast with some ladies, deserted them. Johnson scolded him for 'leaving his social friends, to go and sit with a set of wretched *un-idea'd* girls!' Garrick being told of this ramble, said to him smartly, 'I heard of your frolick t'other night. You'll be in the Chronicle.' Upon which Johnson observed—*He* would not do such a thing, his *wife* would not *let* him!†

The Rev. Dr. Maxwell of Falkland, Ireland, later relating the circumstances of his acquaintance with Johnson, which commenced in 1754, and was continued many years, has stated, Johnson was much attached to London; he observed that a man stored his mind better there, than any where else; and that in remote situa-

* Life of Samuel Johnson, LL.D., 1787, 8vo. p. 383.
† Boswell's Life of Johnson, 1807, 8vo. Vol. I. p. 329.

* Boswell evidently had the recital of this story from Langton, and he fancied the latter had not recollected, or that Johnson had repeated the passage wrong, the lines in Lord Lansdowne's Drinking Song to Sleep, being —

> Short, very short be then thy reign,
> For I'm in haste to laugh and drink again.

But the fault must have been with Langton; Johnson was not so drunk, or so forgetful in memory, as to make nonsense of his couplets.

† Garrick's threat, 'You'll be in the Chronicle,' was allusive to the possibility of Steevens, then Johnson's neighbour in the Temple, or himself lampooning him in the Universal Chronicle, a weekly paper, in which 'the Idler' commenced on Saturday, April 15, 1758, and continued on the Saturday in every week for nearly two years following. Davy in all matters rendered obsequious deference to the mandates of Mrs. Garrick; and under her ægis Johnson was safe.

tions a man's body might be feasted, but his mind was starved, and his faculties apt to degenerate from want of exercise and competition. No place, said he, cured a man's vanity or arrogance so well as London; for as no man was either great or good *per se*, but as compared with others not so good or great, he was sure to find in the metropolis many his equals, and some his superiors. He told me, that he had frequently been offered country preferments, if he would consent to take orders; but he could not leave the improved society of the capital, or consent to exchange the exhilarating joys and splendid decorations of public life, for the obscurity, insipidity, and uniformity of remote situations.

His general mode of life during my acquaintance seemed to be pretty uniform. About twelve o'clock I commonly visited him, and frequently found him in bed, or declaiming over his tea, which he drank very plentifully. He generally had a levee of morning visitors, chiefly men of letters: Hawkesworth, Goldsmith, Murphy, Langton, Steevens, Beauclerk, and others; and sometimes learned ladies, particularly I remember a French lady of wit and fashion doing him the honour of a visit.* Two young women from Staffordshire visited him when I was present, to consult him on the subject of Methodism, to which they were inclined. 'Come,' said he, 'you pretty fools, dine with Maxwell and me at the Mitre, and we'll talk over that subject;' which they did, and after dinner he took one of them upon his knee, and fondled her for half an hour together.

Though the most accessible and communicative man alive, yet when he suspected he was invited to be exhibited, he constantly spurned the invitation.

He seemed to me to be considered as a kind of public oracle, whom everybody thought they had a right to visit and consult; and doubtless they were well rewarded.

I never could discover how Johnson found time for his compositions. He declaimed all the morning, then went to dinner at a tavern where he commonly staid late, and then drank his tea at some friend's house, over which he loitered a great while, but seldom took supper. I fancy he must have read and wrote chiefly in the night, for I can scarcely recollect that he ever refused going with me to a tavern, and he often went to Ranelagh, which he deemed a place of innocent recreation.

He frequently gave all the silver in his pocket to the poor, who watched him between his house and the tavern where he dined. He walked the streets at all hours, and said he was never robbed,* for the rogues knew he had little money, nor had the appearance of having much.

Boswell, who like many others sought an introduction to Johnson, obtained it in the back parlour of Tom Davies' the bookseller's shop, No. 8, Great Russell Street, Covent Garden, on the evening of Monday, May 16, 1763, and in a few days after, induced by Davies' stating that Johnson would certainly take his calling upon him as a compliment, Boswell so determined. 'So, upon Tuesday, the 24th of May, after having been enlivened by the witty sallies of Messrs. Thornton, Wilkes, Churchill, and Lloyd, with whom I had passed the morning, I boldly repaired to Johnson. His chambers were on the first floor of No. 1, Inner Temple Lane, and I entered them with an impression given me by the Rev. Dr. Blair, of Edinburgh, who had been introduced by him not long before, and described his having 'found the Giant in his den.' He received me very courteously. Some gentlemen, whom I do not recollect, were sitting with him; but it must be confessed that his apartment, and furniture, and morning dress were sufficiently uncouth. His brown suit of cloaths looked very rusty; he had on a little, old, shrivelled, unpowdered wig, which was too small for his head, his shirt-neck and knees of his breeches were loose; his black worsted stockings ill drawn up; and he had a pair of unbuckled shoes by way of slippers; but all these slovenly particularities were forgotten the mo-

* Madame de Boufflers, in April, 1763. Boswell subsequently learned the particulars of this visit from Beauclerk. —When Madame de Boufflers was first in England, said Beauclerk, she was desirous to see Johnson. I accordingly went with her to his chambers in the Temple, where she was entertained with his conversation for some time. When our visit was over, she and I left him, and were got into Inner Temple-lane, when all at once I heard a noise like thunder. This was occasioned by Johnson, who it seems, upon a little recollection, had taken it into his head that he ought to have done the honours of his literary residence to a foreign lady of quality, and eager to shew himself a man of gallantry, was hurrying down the staircase in violent agitation. He overtook us before we reached the Temple gate, and brushing in between me and Madame de Boufflers, seized her hand, and conducted her to her coach. His dress was a rusty brown morning suit, a pair of old shoes by way of slippers, a little shrivelled wig sticking on the top of his head, while the sleeves of his shirt, and the knees of his breeches were hanging loose. A considerable crowd of people gathered round, and were not a little struck by his singular appearance. Well might Beauclerk, on Johnson's obtaining in July, 1762, the grant of his pension of three hundred per annum, utter the admonition, though in Falstaff's phraseology—I hope you'll now purge and live cleanly like a gentleman!

* In this respect Johnson was very similar to Professor Porson, who usually passed his evenings in social hilarity at the Cyder Cellar, in Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, whence, after midnight, and at all hours in the morning, often lumpily inebriated, he was wont to pass on his way homeward through Fleet Street, to the London Institution, in Finsbury Circus; his pockets crammed with rare volumes of classic lore, manuscripts or printers' proofs, irreparable if lost, but he 'was never robbed.' Well known to 'the girls of our town,' no one dared to molest him, and if too far gone to remember the axiom that 'strait is the path,' two would unhesitatingly escort him, and by linking their arms with his, endeavour to rectify the Sage in his aptitude to deviate on his course.

ment that he began to talk. Boswell details further particulars of this his first interview.

On Monday, June 13, Boswell records that he again called on Johnson, and told him he had been to see Johnson ride upon Three horses, behind the Three Hats at Islington. He adds — I had learned that his place of frequent resort was the Mitre Tavern in Fleet-street, where he loved to sit up late, and I begged I might be allowed to pass the evening with him there soon, which he promised I should. A few days afterward, I met him near Temple-bar, about one o'clock in the morning, and asked him if he would then go to the Mitre. Sir, said he, it is too late; they won't let us in, but I'll go with you another night, with all my heart.

On Saturday, June 25, Boswell relates some droll particulars of an altercation between Johnson and an Irish gentleman, at Clifton's eating-house in Butcher-row, the dispute arising from the cause why some part of mankind were black; Johnson, overborne by the intemperate expressions of his opponent, gave up the argument and quietly walked away; when, being gone, his antagonist took his revenge, as he thought, by saying—'He has a most ungainly figure, and an affectation of pomposity unworthy of a man of genius.' Boswell, who had been unobserved by Johnson, followed him, and they arranged to meet that evening at the Mitre,* 'I called on him, and we went thither at nine. We had a good supper and port wine, of which he then sometimes drank a bottle.'

Tuesday, July 18, Mr. Levet this day shewed me Johnson's library which was contained in two garrets over his chambers. I found a number of good books, but very dusty, and in great confusion. The floor was strewed with manuscript leaves in Johnson's own handwriting, which I beheld with a degree of veneration, supposing they might contain portions of the Rambler, or of Rasselas. I observed an apparatus for chemical experiments of which Johnson was all his life very fond.† The place seemed to be very favourable for retirement and meditation. Johnson told me, that he went up thither without mentioning it to [Francis Barber] his servant when he wanted to study, secure from interruption, for he would not allow his servant to say he was not at home, when he really was. Boswell at this time occupied the chambers of his friend Temple, in 'Farrar's Building,' the house now No. 10, at the bottom of Inner Temple-lane.

Johnson, who always felt an inclination to do nothing, was abetted in the indulgence of that disposition by his pension, and appears at this time to have busied himself in little beyond preparing his edition of Shakespeare, for which he had long since received subscriptions, and had subsisted upon them. The work was probably finished in Inner Temple-lane, which it would seem he quitted about Midsummer, 1765, or before. He then became 'Johnson of that Ilk,' by going to reside at No. 7, Johnson's Court, Fleet Street; and the honorary title of Doctor of Civil Law, by which we recognize him as Dr. Johnson, was not conferred upon him by Trinity College, Dublin, till July 23, 1765. His Shakespeare was first published on Oct. 9, in that year.

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* The Mitre Tavern, No. 39 in Fleet Street, it was afterward Macklin's Poets' Gallery, and lastly Saunders' Auction Rooms. In 1829, the house was demolished, and Hoare's banking house extended over its site. The Mitre Tavern now opposite Fetter-lane end, erroneously held as the scene of many incidents in literary history, was then simply known as 'Joe's Coffee-house.' The Mitre Tavern is a more recent assumption.

† Hawkins observes — The history of learning furnishes us with many examples of men who have deviated from the study of polite literature to that of the hermetic science, or in plainer English, to that sublime chemistry which leads to the transmutation of metals; and those who may have heard that Johnson exercised himself in chemical processes may perhaps think, that his view therein was suddenly to become the possessor of immense riches, but I am able to obviate this suspicion, and assure them, that his motive was only curiosity, and his end mere amusement. At the time he frequented the club in Ivy Lane, Dyer was going through a course of chemistry under Dr. Pemberton, of Gresham College, and would sometimes give us descriptions of processes as were very entertaining, particularly to Johnson, who would listen to them attentively. We may suppose, that in the course of his reading, he had acquired some knowledge of the theory of the art, and that he wished for an opportunity of reducing that knowledge into practice; he thought the time now come, and though he had no fitter an apartment for a laboratory than the garret over his chambers in the Inner Temple, he furnished that with an alembic, with retorts, receivers and other vessels adapted to the cheapest and least operose processes. What his aims were, at first, I know not, having forgotten the account he once gave me of the earliest of his chemical operations; but, I have since learned, that they dwindled down to mere distillation, and that from substances of the simplest and coarsest sort, namely, peppermint, and the dregs of strong beer; from the latter whereof, he was able to extract a strong but very nauseous spirit, which all might smell, but few chose to taste.

Johnson possibly never told Hawkins or any one else, to what purpose his chemical operations were really directed, and Time only has elicited the fact. The improvement of the manufacture of china-ware or porcelain was at this period an object of sedulous enquiry even with the most distinguished chemists, Johnson imbibed the same predilection and fancied he had discovered all that was required, until his repeated failures in the ovens of the Chelsea china works convinced him he knew nothing of its manufacture, and that his theories were nought. These abortive attempts were probably late in 1762, or early in 1763, as at the close of that year the Chelsea works were altogether discontinued; yet where-ever porcelain was made, Johnson subsequently invariably visited the manufactory, his inveterate longing tended to that course, in which he had signally failed, and his visits to Worcester in 1774, to Sèvres in 1775, and to Derby in 1777, are all recorded facts.

Miss Ann Williams, his blind protegee, who had been an inmate with him in Gough Square, on his occupying the chambers in Inner Temple-lane lodged in Bolt-court, and continued there till his moval to Johnson's Court, when he again invited her to reside in his house. The house in Johnson's Court is now part of Anderton's Hotel.

The buildings about to be demolished bear an inscribed stone over the first story of No. 3; dated 1657. The words DR. JOHNSON'S STAIRCASE, painted over the door at No. 1, were first placed there in December 1844. Serjeant Atkinson is the out-going tenant of the chambers formerly occupied by Johnson.

A civil word to Mrs. Massey, the housekeeper there for the last twenty-five years, will lead the inquirer to a view of the rooms once occupied by England's most distinguished Lexicographer.

ELIA, or Charles Lamb, once occupied at No. 4, two rooms on the third floor, with a separate staircase to the five rooms above. They are doomed with the rest.

JUNTO.—In the History of Queen Anne's period frequent mention is made of the *Junto*, a political association, that appears to have maintained no little dominance over the political destinies of the country. Who were they?

Reform Club, Sept. 16. R.

The Junto consisted of the following six leading Whigs —The Duke of Devonshire, Lord Halifax, Lord Somers, Lord Wharton, Lord Sunderland, and Lord Orford. Laird in his History of Worcestershire, 1813, p. 195, states their portraits, as constituting the Junto, are at Ombersley.

WARDIAN CASES. What is the reason that when there are no plants in a Wardian case, no moisture is condensed on the glass, although there may be plenty of damp earth? S. O.

The Chinese have adopted the principle of Lycurgus, and have issued a coinage of iron-money, for payment of public servants for their services, and for the purchase of corn; but the taxes from the public at large are required to be paid in silver.

Dr. Rae's schooner, the Iceberg, with which, in the ensuing spring, he purposed proceeding in search of Sir John Franklin's remains, has it is feared been lost on lake Ontario with all on board.

The Fourth Volume of Mr. C. R, Smith's Collectanea Antiqua being completed, he announces 'the Fifth Volume will commence with Notes of a Tour to Rome through the South of France, with illustrations by Mr. Fairholt.' The work is 'Printed for Subscribers only, and not Published.'

The first brick of the New Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, laid by Mr. Lucas, the builder, on Sept. 23, at 4 p.m.

UWINS, R. A., AND WALKER'S CLASSICS.

The late Thomas Uwins, R. A., recently the keeper of the National Gallery, but who died on August 25th last, at Staines, in his seventy-fifth year, with the very questionable and unmeaning designation of 'Surveyor of Pictures to the Queen, &c.,' obtained no little celebrity from the pleasing manner of his designs or illustrations to Walker's Series of English Classics, in their day highly popular, and supposed to be remunerative, but as in most literary adventures, frequently involving the proprietors in difficulties, so in this; after being some years before the public, a change of proprietary was indispensable, the change was effected, and Uwins' letter to John Walker, the ostensible director and publisher, in Paternoster Row, may possibly at this time be deserving of note; it is here transcribed from the autograph.

Thavies Inn, Ap. 29, 1818.

Sir, I have long thought of raising my price for the drawings of the Classics, equal to what I have from other connections and for other things, but I have hitherto been withheld from it by a feeling of attachment which I have always had for this work, as I was the original and almost the only artist employed on it. As the mode of conducting it has however entirely changed its character, I think this the best time to do what I ought in justice to myself to have done long ago. As the artists [the engravers], whose talents I know, and with whom I have been accustomed to act, are now I find to be dismissed, and as Jack Nokes and Tom Styles are sent to me for drawings—people whose works I have never seen, and of whose talents I am entirely ignorant, I can of course no longer feel any pleasure in the work, and must therefore contrive to make it a little more profitable. In future then my prices will be as follows —

For Frontispiece and Vignette .	6	6	0
Vignette alone	3	3	0
Frontispiece alone . . .	5	5	0

You will have the goodness to inform the committee as soon as possible of my determination, as the drawings for

Chesterfield,

Locke, and Mason and

Milton, not being done I can give them immediately into other hands—the Quixoht and Gill Blas being understood as the last at the old prices.

In conclusion, Sir, permit me to express to you, to all who have had any share in the management of the works, and to the gentlemen of the committee, the very great obligations I feel for all the attentions I have received during a connection of ten or twelve years—through all which time no single circumstance has ever occurred to occasion the smallest difference or disagreement between us, and if this letter should be the cause of our separation (as my determination is unalterable), permit me to hope that my name and my connection with this concern may be recollected with the same feelings of respect that I entertain for all the parties interested in it.

I am Sir, your obliged humble servant,

THOS. UWINS.

SHAKESPEARE. Ayscough received for his Index to Shakespeare, printed as a third volume to Stockdale's edition, in 1790, two hundred guineas.

GENTLEMEN CONNOISSEURS IN PAINTING.

Over the fire-place in the dining-parlour, the room on the right hand, on entering the hall of the house formerly Sir Joshua Reynolds's, 47, Leicester Square; Claude's finely painted landscape, a view near the Castle of Gondolfo, unquestionably one of his most capital and finished pictures, long held a prominent but justly deserved situation; it excited general admiration, and occasioned a somewhat interesting incident in the biography of the once distinguished President of the Royal Academy.

There are many instances of erroneous judgment in Gentlemen Connoisseurs, some of whom, in position from circumstances, have biassed and controlled public opinion, when in fact they were wholly deficient in the essentials to qualify them as Directors of the public taste. Had Mr. Payne Knight's dictum been followed, the Elgin marbles would have been lost to the Country, but the strong remonstrance in their favour from the Royal Academicians, induced the Government to reconsider and reject that respected virtuoso's veto.

Mr. Noel Desenfans was considered a Collector of no common discernment, and his capabilities were unquestioned; the Collection of Paintings at Dulwich, formerly belonging to him, fully corroborates the popular estimate of his judgment, but in his opinions he was not infallible, as was evinced by the following anecdote.

Much to the vexation of Sir Joshua, Mr. Desenfans constantly eulogized the old masters, and deprecated all productions of modern art; the former therefore determined to expose the illiberality of this opinion. The Claude above mentioned was constantly the theme of Mr. Desenfans' praise, and by this picture he resolved to effect his purpose; he therefore directed his pupil Marchi to make a facsimile of it, which he finished under the continued superintendence of Sir Joshua. Marchi's copy was then dried and smoked according to the most modern improved system, and substituted in place of the original in the frame over the fire-place.

My father, who had been Sir Joshua's frame maker for some years, was at this period apprised by him of the trick he proposed playing Mr. Desenfans, and in furtherance of his scheme, wrote to my father, desiring him to 'go to Leicester Square, and take away *the landscape* now hanging over the fire-place, and new line it, but on no account to touch the picture, or allow any one to do so.' The picture was accordingly put on a new lining, and was visible at the back part of my father's shop, No. 288, High Holborn. Some days after, Mr. Desenfans called in as he was used to do, and espying the picture, exclaimed, Oh! what have you got the Claude from Sir Joshua? My father replied 'No,' but as had been previously arranged by the painter, he shewed him Sir Joshua's letter of instructions as to the new lining of the landscape then before him. Mr. Desenfans admired the picture, examined it again and again, observed it looked rather dirty, but notwithstanding expressed a strong desire to become its possessor. My father replied that he was not aware that Sir Joshua was disposed to part with it, but promised to write and sound him as to any purpose he might have respecting it. Mr. Desenfans was delighted, but begged Sir Joshua should not be then told that he was the party desirous of becoming the purchaser. My father then wrote, that a *certain gentleman* had seen the landscape, admired it, and was very desirous of knowing the price. It had been previously arranged by Sir Joshua, that if my father wrote, no answer would be sent for at least a week, in order to sharpen the appetite of the would-be possessor, Mr. Desenfans, who however called every day for a week or more, anxiously inquisitive as to the result, and on each occasion warmly scrutinizing the picture, making no further observation than that 'it wanted a careful cleaning.' The reply at length arrived, and my father was directed to inform the gentleman, whoever he was, that Sir Joshua was in no way desirous of selling the picture, but that as the letter had stated the gentleman very much wished for it, he would sell it for two hundred pounds, but no less. The letter was in due course shewn to Mr. Desenfans, who immediately closed on these terms, and drew on his banker a cheque for that amount. The draft was forwarded to Sir Joshua, who then affected to have only then learned who was the purchaser, and wrote a letter to Mr. Desenfans, in which he returned him the cheque, and expressed his surprise that a gentleman of Mr. Desenfans' consummate judgment should have been so completely taken in, that it was a copy by Marchi, which he had been desired to paint for practice, not supposing for a moment that so excellent a judge of the old masters, as Mr. Desenfans had proved himself on all occasions, could be so deceived. Sir Joshua spoke of this affair pretty freely, and of course much to the annoyance of Mr. Desenfans, and it caused an estrangement between them. I have often heard my father, who died in 1827, relate the particulars, but Mr. Desenfans never knew he was at all implicated.

The original Claude was sold in the fourth day's sale, No. 84, of Sir Joshua's collection of paintings by the old Masters, in the Great Room next to Cumberland House, Pall Mall, on Saturday, March 14, 1795, for one hundred and forty-five guineas; but what became of Marchi's copy, it has escaped me, if I ever knew, but in 1845, all the circumstances here related were again brought to my recollection, by a picture cleaner telling me, he had a Claude to clean, that was formerly in the possession of Sir Joshua Reynolds. I remember I laughed heartily, and bid him call in again another day, and I would tell him an amusing story about the picture; he however failed to do so, and possibly the possessor, whoever he may be, may for the first time learn, from a perusal of Current Notes, that there are two Richards in the Field!—two pictures, one painted by a master whose genius is recognized by the world; a second, accredited as the original, but is only a resemblance of the other, painted by the assistant of a modern artist, whose excellence is also universally acknowledged.

King Street, Covent Garden. WILLIAM CRIBB.

EPITAPH IN LIMERICK CATHEDRAL.

In my copy of Ferrar's History of Limerick, with maps and plates, Limerick, 1787, 8vo. at p. 156, the Epitaph given by J. W. S. in Current Notes, p. 57, from a transcript by Mr. David Mahony, Writing Master, is thus noticed —

In the wall of the chapter-room is fixed the following old inscription, in monkish verse greatly abbreviated.

Hic jacet in tumuli fundo,
Sublatus a mundo,
Galfridus Arthurie,
Thesaurarius quondam istius ecclesie,
Decima sexta luce Maya,
Requiescit in pace perpetua.
A. D. 1519.

There is another line on the stone relative to singing requiems to his soul; but antiquarians are not agreed in the explanation of it.

Notwithstanding the very ingenious 'elucidation' by Mr. David Mahony, writing master, by the interchange of A and S, C and T, S and the Arabic numeral 8, etc., this epitaph does not contain one syllable with respect to 'singing requiems.' By the bye, when were Arabic numerals first carved on Monuments? This is a question worthy of solution. As to the epitaph itself, the only rhyming lines in it are the first and the last.

HIC IAC' Ī TUMULI FŪDO ABLAT⁹ A MŪDO,
GALFRID⁹ ART' VICARI⁹ Q°ND' ISTI⁹ ECCLIE.
XVI LUCE MAYE REQ^I VIT Ī PACE PPTUA,
AN̄O ICAR' DN̄I MCCCXIX.
IN CUI⁹ AIE S̄ CAVE Q̄ DICAS P̄R Ē AVE.

Or in words in full length:

Hic jacet in tumuli fundo ablatus a mundo,
Galfridus Arter, vicarius quondam istius ecclesie.
XVI. luce Maye requievit in pace perpetua,
Anno incarnationis Domini MCCCXIX.
In cujus anime Salutem cave quod dicas Pater et Ave.

As to the Latinity: 'in tumuli fundo' is rather uncommon even in ancient epitaphs; not quite so strange, however, as —

Hac sunt in fossa Bedæ Venerabilis ossa.

'Istius' for 'hujus' occurs very frequently in such compositions. In the last line, 'cave quod dicas' should have been 'cave ut dicas,' be careful to say, as in Cicero, Off. I. 39. See Sanctii Minerva, IV., 15, 29.

When Mr. David Mahony, writing master, had been occupied in deciphering the last line, the seventh verse of the ninety-eighth Psalm was doubtless running in his head: 'In tubis ductilibus,' etc.

Ferrar, at p. 447, inserts, but incorrectly, another curious epitaph. It is extant in the ruins of the church of St. Peter and St. Paul, at Kilmallock, and is very legible. During the Cork Exhibition, I visited Kilmallock and its neighbourhood, this epitaph being a particular object. The following is a correct copy.

At the top are the arms of the Burgate family, which I copied at the time; but the sketch being mislaid, I am unable at present to supply it.

1642.

Tertia lux cæsos memorat Septembris in anno
Quem legis, heu! nondum tres tenet urna senes.
Marte nepos fratresque ruunt tria pignora justo:
Jus patriæ causam Rexque, Fidesque probant.
Integer attritis reperitur candor in extis
Virginis, et veri purpura martyrii.
Lilia purpureos inter sudantia fluctus
Tres meruere trium nomina marmor habe.

Fratres, Georg. } Burgate.
Edvard. }
Nepos, Alex. }

Hawkshead, Sept. 7. D. B. H.

KENT AND SURREY ARCHÆOLOGY.

The Surrey Archæological Society, established in 1854, has so far progressed that it now numbers 470 names of persons of the highest distinguished and respectable character, seventy of whom are Life Members. Periodical Meetings are held in various parts of the County, and the papers then read are printed and gratuitously distributed to the Members. These associations excite considerable interest, and induce the desired exhibitions of local antiquities, which facilities are gratifying to the possessors, and highly advantageous to archæological enquiries. Excavations have also been made by direction of the Society with the most beneficial results.

While each of the neighbouring Counties of Sussex, Surrey, Middlesex, and Essex have their Archæological Society, Kent has none—Kent, teeming with antiquarian remains of the Roman, Saxon, Norman, and every other era of the past, so that there are relics to be found in almost every subdivision of the County; and while the harvest is represented to be abundantly prolific, labourers, by some unaccountable neglect, appear to be few and far between; thus, were there no other inducement, it might be most hopefully advanced that Kent greatly needs a representative—the County Histories are replete with errors and inconclusive statements; even Hasted is insufficient and meagre in that archæological effulgence which is widely spreading its light amid the antiquarian enquiries of our time. The Chapter libraries of Canterbury and Rochester, and many of the private collections in the County, contain much valuable information hitherto unexplored; while the ancient laws of Romney Marsh, the History of Gavelkind, the peculiar immunities and customs of the Cinque Ports, and many other points of equally great importance, proffer most desirable evidence and illustrations of early history, local customs and manners, and civil political economy. The ecclesiastical antiquities, with the baronial and other mansions in Kent, unsurpassed in number and variety in any of the other English Counties, are in themselves a source of inexhaustible

interest and research. Enough having been thus stated that Kent possesses ample materials for the co-operations of a Society, it has been proposed to constitute in conjunction with that existing for Surrey, an extension of Kentish members competent to undertake such labours, and that such amalgamation should be immediately effected, thus avoiding the delay, trouble, uncertainty, and cost attendant on the formation of new Societies, and securing of all other incidents the most important, the advantage of greatly diminished charges of working expenses.

The Council of the Surrey Society have energetically proffered every facility to an enlargement of their body, by a junction with the Nobility, Clergy, and Gentlemen of Kent, the Rules being modified and the title altered to — The Surrey and Kent Archæological Society.

Many distinguished persons have already expressed their concurrence; lists of these names, with the Rules, may be obtained on application to Mr. George Bish Webb, Honorary Secretary, 6, Southampton Street, Strand, London, W. C.

Fonts in Churches.—Whence their origin, and when were they introduced into Churches?

Winchelsea, September 6. M. R.

Bishop Sparrow observes, What the Font is everybody knows, but not why it is so called. The rites of Baptism in the first times were performed in fountains and rivers, both because their converts were many, and because those ages were unprovided of other baptisteries: we have no other remainder of this rite but the name. Hence it is that we call our baptisteries fonts; which when religion found peace, were built and consecrated for the more reverence and respect of the sacrament. These were set, at first, some distance from the church; after, in the church porch, and that significantly, because Baptism is the entrance into the Church mystical, as the porch to the Temple. Later, they got into the church, but not into every but THE MOTHER CHURCH, because it gave spiritual birth by Baptism; afterward, they were brought into rural churches, but wheresoever they stood, they were held in high veneration.

WRECK OF THE ROYAL GEORGE.

N. J. will find the lines quoted by Mr. Bellew, in the London Magazine, for March, 1820, p. 296, under the title of 'The Contrast; written under Windsor Terrace, Feb. 19, 1820;' and signed H.

Oxford, September 12. Magdalensis.

N. J. who requests to know whence is derived the couplet quoted in Current Notes, p. 68, is referred to the Poetry at the end of the Annual Register, 1820, p. 1389, where he will find the poem; it is entitled 'The Contrast,' and bears the signature H.

Scarlets, Maidenhead. C. R. Littledale.

Fellowship. Can a widower be elected to a Fellowship at the Universities? S. O.

BLINCKARNE GRANT OF ARMS.

To All and Singuler, unto whom these presents shall come, Sir Edward Walker, Knight, Garter Principall King of Armes of Englishmen, sendeth greeting. It hath been an ancient practice in all well governed kingdomes and comonwealths to distinguish the Conditions and Degrees of men by markes and signes of Honour called Armes, such being the outward demonstrations of the inward worth of the bearers either atcheived by their valour in the times of Warr, or by their virtuous endeavours in the times of Peace, and whereas Thomas Blinckarne of Chiselhurst, in the County of Kent, sonne of George Blinckarne of Holbech, in the County of Lincolne; and grandchild of George Blinckarne, servant to the late Queene Elizabeth of blessed memory, did from the beginning of the late unhappy divisions actively imploy himself in asserting the juste cause of his late Majesty, King Charles the First, of ever blessed and glorious memory, who had soe great a confidence in his Loyalty and fidelity, as that with his own hand Hee put him in the Commission of Array for the Cittyes of London and Westminster, which was sent from Oxford to London, and ordered to be delivered to him; upon the discovery of which, hee was condemned to dye, by a Councell of Warre, at the same time with Mr. Tomkins and Mr. Challoner, and with great difficulty escaped, Soe that for his exemplar loyalty and sufferings hee justly deserves to have such Armes assigned him as may bee properly borne for the honours of himself and his posterity. Know yee therefore that the said Sir Edward Walker, Knight, Garter Principall King of Armes, by the power and authority annexed unto my office by the Statutes of the most noble Order of the Garter, and confirmed unto me by letters patents under the great seale of England, Doe by these presents give, grant and assigne unto the said Thomas Blinckarne and the heires and descendants of his body for ever, the Coate of Armes and Crest hereafter mentioned, viz, Gules, on a Cross ingrayled voided Or, a Crown Imperiall; and for his Crest upon an Helmett proper, mantled Gules, doubled Argent, and wreath of his colours, a Demy-Lion Or, holding a Crosse ingrayled Gules, as in the margent more lively is depicted. The which Armes and Creast the said Thomas Blinckarne and the heires and descendants of his body lawfully begotten for ever (bearing their due and proper differences) may and shall lawfully at all times and upon all occasions use, beare, and sett forth in shield, coat armour, pennon, seale or otherwise (according to the law and practice of Armes) without the lett, interruption, dispute or contradiction of any person whomsoever. In Witnesse whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seale of my Office this third day of March, in the sixteenth yeare of the reigne of our Soveraigne Lord Charles the Second by the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, defender of the Faith, Annoq. Dni. 1663.

Edw. Walker, Garter.

ENGLISHMEN CURSED WITH TAILS.

St. Augustine, on landing in England to convert or pervert the Britons to popery, met with anything but a friendly reception, and so those of the Romish church, when speaking disrespectfully of the English, asserted, that in consequence of the treatment that saintly minion of the Pope encountered, the natives of this country were miraculously subjected to the punishment of wearing tails, and that the tail became an heir-loom. Another story relates that Sir Robert de Broc, one of the murderers of Thomas a'Becket, cut off the tail of the archbishop's horse, for which he was excommunicated; and the assassins and their abettors were cursed with Tails. These indignities were the common reviling of the enemies of the English on the continent, and who on most occasions affected to make disreputable allusions to our want of national courage.

The sixth crusade against the infidel Saracens was undertaken by St. Louis, in 1250, and after the capture of Damietta, Louis resolved to march on the capital of Egypt. The crusaders were delayed for some time at the Achnoun canal, until a ford was discovered, when the passage was immediately effected by the impetuous Count d'Artois, at the head of fourteen hundred knights, including the Templars and Hospitallers, with William Longespé, Sir. Robert de Vere, Sir Alexander Giffard, and their followers.

The Count d'Artois advised an immediate attack on Mansoura; the master of the Templars and Longespé, with a better discernment of the danger, remonstrated, more particularly as the main body had not arrived. Matthew Paris narrates a very animated account of this council of war, with the contemptuous and arrogant conduct of Artois. He observes—Taking the word out of Longespé's mouth, thundering and indecently swearing after the French fashion, he repeated those insolent reflections on the English, to which on a former occasion he had given utterance. 'Oh! the cowardice of the timid tail-wearers! How happy would this army be if it was purged of tails and tail-wearers!' Longespé, on hearing this, replied — Count Robert, be assured, I will proceed undismayed to whatever perils of death may offer themselves: we shall be to-day where you will not dare to touch the tail of my horse! It was then resolved to advance against the enemy, and Matthew Paris details the fatal consequences of this ill-advised movement, which led to the most direful consequences — no less than the death of Longespé and his vilifier Artois, the capture of Louis, and the ruin of this crusade.

Query, is it from a sense of this ignoble appendage that Englishmen, though still charged by Frenchmen with a deficiency of courage in the Crimea, and elsewhere, and as military men not to be compared to themselves, that our countrymen scorn to turn tail?

Canterbury, September 8. A QUERIST.

EDINBURGH IN THE LAST CENTURY.

A folio volume of fugitive pieces in the library of the Faculty of Advocates, contains a very remarkable paper which affords direct evidence, were any required, to substantiate the accusations made a century before by Sir Anthony Weldon, as to the filthy condition of the Scottish capital; they were in fact but too well founded. Edinburgh for nearly a century after continued to be as distinguished for its want of cleanliness, as it had been in the time of king 'James the Sapient and Sext;' and it seems to have escaped recognition by the Historians of Edinburgh that after the Restoration, two criminal prosecutions were instituted against the Magistrates for not cleansing the streets of the metropolis. No proceedings followed as the suit appears to have been deserted. No doubt liberal promises of reformation had been made by the Civic rulers which the filthy habits of the inhabitants would render somewhat difficult to accomplish.

The paper is entitled — Overture for Cleansing the Streets, by Sir Alexander Brand. It states —

Seeing the nobility and gentry of Scotland are, when they are abroad, esteemed by all nations to be the finest and most accomplished people in Europe, yet it is to be regretted that it is always casted up to them by strangers, who admire them for their singular qualifications, that they are born in a nation that has the nastiest cities in the world, especially the metropolitan. For remeid of which, it is humbly proposed to his Grace, his Majesty's High Commissioner, and the right honourable the Estates of Parliament, that if the magistrates will give a tack of the whole muck of Edinburgh for a certain number of years, as they did some time ago, at 500 lib. sterling a-year, the proposer will find sufficient caution [security] that he will cause the whole streets, closes, courts, and turnpykes within Edinburgh to be paddeled and swept clean every morning, so that no nastiness nor glar shall be seen anywhere within the city, but shall be carried by carts without the city, upon the undertaker's proper expenses, and that within an hour and a-half every morning before break of day, summer and winter, except Sunday; and such a course shall be taken that the street upon Sunday shall be as clean then as on any other day in the week. And to convince your Grace and the honourable Estates of Parliament, that the person that makes this overture is more concerned for removing the reproach that has for ever been upon the nation, than for any private design of gain to himself, he is willing to pay 400 lib. sterling a-year during the years of his tack to the poor of Edinburgh.

That Sir Alexander Brand was successful in his application does not appear. Smollett has embodied no overcharged description in his inimitable Humphrey Clinker; and Major Topham in his very amusing Letters, printed in 1776, is equally explicit.

Nor was the metropolis the solitary instance, the provincial towns were equally defiled by filth, and the seats of the gentry not particularly remarkable for sweetness of odour. Captain Burt upon whose information, in his Letters printed in 1754, Sir Walter Scott has drawn so largely in his immortal novel of Waverley, describes the residence of the mighty chieftain, Lord Lovat, as a most unsavoury abode for a nobleman.

Edinburgh, Sept. 3. J. M.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXXII.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [OCTOBER, 1857.

ANNE, COUNTESS OF WINCHELSEA.

Miss Strickland in her Lives of the Queens of England, vol. vi. p. 189, states that—'Two of the maids of honour in the service of Mary Beatrice, wife of James II., and much beloved by her, were ladies of the most irreproachable virtue, members of the Church of England, and alike distinguished for moral worth and literary attainments. One of these ladies, Anne Kingsmill, published a volume of elegant little poems, in which easy graceful versification was combined with refinement and good feeling. She was celebrated by Pope, under the name of Ardelia, after she became Countess of Winchelsea.'

What is the title and date of publication of this volume of Poems? and also, in which of Pope's works the Countess of Winchelsea is mentioned under the name of Ardelia?

Inner Temple, Oct. 6. T. P. LANGMEAD.

Anne, daughter of Sir William Kingsmill, of Sidmonton, Co. Southampton, was the wife of Heneage Finch, who during the lifetime of his father Heneage, second Earl of Winchelsea, was one of the gentlemen of the bedchamber to James, Duke of York, but upon the death of his nephew, succeeded to the title as fourth Earl of Winchelsea.

Her poem 'On the Spleen,' was printed in Miscellaneous Poems, edited by Charles Gildon, 1701, 8vo. Rowe replied in 'An Epistle to Flavia on the sight of Two Pindaric Odes on the Spleen, and Vanity, written by a Lady to a Friend.'

Pope's 'Rape of the Lock,' written in 1712, induced some admonitory verses addressed to him by Lady Winchelsea, when he replied—

> Of all examples by the world confest,
> I knew Ardelia could not quote the best;
> Who like her mistress, on Britannia's throne,
> Fights and subdues in quarrels not her own.

Pope's lines with her answer, in nine four-line stanzas, declining future contest, are printed in the 10th volume of Birch's General Biographical Dictionary.

Her verses were published anonymously—Miscellany Poems on several occasions; with Aristomenes, or the Royal Shepherd, a Tragedy. Written by a Lady, 1713, 8vo. Wordsworth in commendation eulogizes the volume as containing 'some delightful pictures.' With Prior's Posthumous Works, will also be found another poem by her; and many others remain in manuscript, and unpublished,

Lady Winchelsea is now principally distinguished as a poetess by the apologue of 'The Atheist and Acorn,' which with a 'Nocturnal Reverie,' were printed by Ritson in the second volume of his English Anthology.

The Countess died without issue, August 5, 1720, and the Earl, her husband, continued a widower till his death, September 30, 1726. Sir S. E. Bridges, in his edition of Collins's Peerage, states the date of her decease, August 23.

ANGLO-SAXON GRAVES NEAR SCARBOROUGH.

Some interesting Saxon funeral deposits have been recently discovered near Scarborough. Almost the whole of the high land called Seamer Moor is a knoll of chalk rock, a great part of which has been cut away by the operations in a very extensive lime quarry. The wife of one of the quarry men having brought into Scarborough several gold ornaments and other articles, and sold them to a shopkeeper, from whom they soon passed to Lord Londesborough, and the precise spot where these objects had been found having been correctly ascertained, Lord Londesborough immediately determined on further search, and on Thursday, the 8th inst., his lordship, accompanied by Mr. Thomas Wright, proceeded in his inquiries. On sifting the earth that had been thrown down, a beautiful lozenge shaped pendant set with stones; a gold pin with an enamelled head, and several fragments of other ornaments, with numerous pieces of iron and pottery were found. The ground above was then trenched, but one grave only was discovered, it contained a skeleton with a few ordinary articles in bronze and iron. The objects thus accidentally acquired, comprised the gold pendant and the pin above noticed, a bulla consisting of an onyx set in gold, a small gold ring, a large ornamental gold ring, a silver ring resembling the last in form and size; two ornaments in gold which appear to have been the appendages of ear-rings; a large ring-formed fibula of silver, fragments of a band of plaited silver wire, a number of beads of different materials and sizes, a small urn in a very perfect condition, and various other articles.

Much of the cliff near the Brigg, having been washed down by the recent flood at Filey; Mr. Wilson, a painter, residing at Old Filey, found among the debris a bone, which he took to Dr. Pritchard, the latter immediately hastened to where it had been found, and high up, about four feet from the surface were seen the remains of a Roman wall. On displacing some of the stones, an earthen vase, with numerous human bones, ornamented [?] shells, charred wood, and the skulls of animals were discovered. The barrow extends one hundred yards. The land is the property of the Rev. B. Brookes, and the farm is held by Mr. Elisha Elders. So soon as permission to explore it can be obtained, a probability is entertained some interesting discoveries will be the result.

Want is the rock which stands in the way of Genius.
Beranger.

CHURCHWARDENS. The following notitia may possibly interest some readers of Current Notes, as the point is one that has been often mooted.

The institution of Churchwardens is of a remote date, they were first appointed in or about the year 423, at the African Council held under the Popes Celestine and Boniface; but at different periods have been distinguished by various appellations, as Defensores, Oeconomi, and Præpositi Ecclesiæ; Testes Synodales, etc. Chaucer shews that in the time of King Edward the Third, they were designated Church-reeves, as he speaks —

Of Church-reues, and of Testamentes,
Of contracts, and of lacke of Sacramentes.

Later, they obtained another name and were called Churchwardens; all these appellations being expressive of the nature of their office, which was and is to observe, superintend, and maintain the rights, revenues, buildings, and furniture of the Church. An old Churchwarden's book of accounts belonging to the parish of Farringdon, co. Berks, dated so early as 1518, has the form at that period of admitting Churchwardens, in the following words:

Cherchyewardenys, theys shal be your charge—to be true to God and to the cherche—for love nor for favour off no man wythin thys parriche to withold any ryght to the cherche, but to resseve the dettys to hyt belongythe, or else to goo to the devell.

J. C.

TELEGRAM.—A correspondent of the Manchester Examiner writes—New Words: An epigram, a diagram, a monogram; but, an autograph, a lithograph, a photograph, a telegraph. What is the principle? Where the compound denotes the character (?) of the writing it takes *gram;* where it denotes the means it takes *graph.* Do not be misled by the Government *telegram*—an illustration of the proverb, 'A little learning is a dangerous thing.'

Telegram is undoubtedly the correct word for a *written* telegraphic message. I first saw it in the London Times, and my only surprise was, that it had not been previously adopted. The principle is this: Words ending in *graph, graphy,* and *gram,* follow the original Greek form; autograph, chirograph, *graphos;* paragraph, *graphe;* calligraphy, photography, stenography, tachygraphy, *graphia;* anagram, diagram, epigram, *gramma;* monogram, *grammos.* Besides, we have diagraph, and epigraph. Some in *graph* signify an instrument, as diagraph, pantograph, sometimes written pantagraph, and pentagraph. Those in *gram* are derived from a perfect participle passive, and signify a thing written, painted, or described. Thus *telegraph* is the instrument, and *telegram* the written telegraphic message. On the same principle I dare propose three other 'new words'—*Telegraphy,* the art of working the telegraph; *photograph,* the instrument used in photography; and *photogram,* the fac-simile, or likeness produced.

Hawkshead, Oct. 12. D. B. H.

BROWNE'S 'PIPE OF TOBACCO' IMITATIONS.

The Latin and English Poems of Isaac Hawkins Browne, a gentleman—

Possessing wealth beyond a poet's lot;

were edited and published by his son, in 1768, with a finely engraved portrait by Ravenet, from a painting by Highmore. The volume has considerable notoriety, for verses on 'a Pipe of Tobacco; in imitation of six several authors,' written in imitation of Colley Cibber, Ambrose Phillips, Thomson, Dr. Young, Pope and Swift; and in the address 'To the Reader,' it is stated, the second, 'the Imitation of Ambrose Phillips was not written by my Father, but sent to him by an Ingenious Friend.'

On the fly-leaf of a presentation copy of these Poems, are the following in manuscript, under different dates.

Memorandum, Friday, August 2, 1776. The celebrated Floyer Sydenham told me, that the best poems of his late friend Isaac Hawkins Browne were in the *memory only* of Mr. Highmore the painter, who was very particularly desired by Mr. Browne, not to suffer any copies of them to be taken.

Some weeks after the above date, Dr. Sydenham also assured me that the second, the imitation, p. 117,

Little tube of mighty pow'r,
Charmer of an idle hour, etc.

was not written by Mr. Browne, but he did not say who was the Author. When he told me so, I supposed it might have been by himself, Dr. S., though I cannot now recollect what reason I had for thinking so.

J. HUSSEY, Oct. 5, 1797.

POPE ROWED IN A SEDAN CHAIR.

Mr. Carruthers in his recently published Life of Alexander Pope, p. 381, states, 'In his latter years, when rowed up and down the river, Pope usually sat in a sedan chair, in which he was carried to the boat; and so late as 1813, an aged boatman on the Thames, 'Old Horne,' survived to talk of Mr. Pope, whom, when a boy, he had often seen and well remembered.'

Pope died May 30, 1744, but was for months before his death unable to be borne about, so that fully seventy years may be said to have elapsed between that period and 1813, a long distance of time for remembrance, and yet O'Keeffe who was resident at Barnes, in 1785; at Esher in 1798, and at Twickenham in 1800, and some years after; in his Recollections, 1826, vol. II., p. 383, notices, 'At Twickenham, an old waterman of the name of Horner, told me that he had often rowed Alexander Pope across the Thames to Ham, sitting in a sedan chair, which belonged to the poet: at the bottom of the chair, in the front was a kind of trunk, in which he always kept his papers; these he brought to and fro in the chair with him. The regular rower of the ferry from Thames Ditton, about thirty years ago, was an old blind woman, who often rowed me across, but not in a sedan chair, nor accompanied by my manuscripts.'

Athenæum, Oct. 8. R.

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS' LOVE LETTERS.

Sir Joshua Reynolds was born at Plympton, in Devonshire, July 16, 1723, and having evinced a strong predilection for the arts, was eventually placed under the tuition of Thomas Hudson, the leading portrait painter of that day, and who then lived at the house, now Nos. 55 and 56, in Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields. Reynolds arrived in London on Saturday, October 13, 1740, and commenced being Hudson's pupil on St. Luke's day, the 18th of that month.

In August, 1743, from some disagreement with Hudson, we find Reynolds had returned homeward, and was pursuing a very uncertain course, till the December of the following year, 1744, when Reynolds was again in London, reconciled in all matters of dispute with Hudson, and progressing in his studies as an artist. The decease of his father, on December 25, 1746, appears to have summoned him from the metropolis, and, upon the family having upon that event to quit what had been to them almost a family mansion, Reynolds established himself at Plymouth dock, now Devonport, and occasionally resided there with his two unmarried sisters, for he at the same time occupied the house, No. 103, St. Martin's Lane, nearly opposite to May's Buildings, that had been formerly the residence of Sir James Thornhill, and by whom the staircase had been painted with figures, which are still there.

Malone observes, After spending a few more years in the practice of painting, partly in London, and partly in Devonshire, where many of his early essays yet remain, he became acquainted with the late Lord Edgecumbe, and Captain, afterwards Lord Keppel, by each of whom he was warmly patronised, and the latter being ordered to cruise in the Mediterranean, Reynolds embraced the opportunity which his kindness proffered, and he accompanied him thither, sailing from Plymouth on May 11, 1749. In the course of their voyage, during which he had accommodation in the Captain's ship, the Centurion, they touched at Algiers, Gibraltar, Cadiz, Lisbon, and Minorca; and after spending about two months in Port-Mahon, the principal town of that island, he sailed, in December, to Leghorn, from which place he proceeded to Rome.*

During Reynolds' sojourn with Hudson in Great Queen Street, he appears to have become acquainted with a Miss Weston, who, with her mother, resided in the same street; and to her the following letters, which fill up an hiatus in his biography, were severally addressed—'To Miss Weston, In Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London.' The orthography of the originals is strictly retained.

[Mahon,] December O. S. 10th, 1749.

Dear Miss Weston, My memory is so bad that I vow I dont remember whether or no I writ you about my expedition before I left England, since, I am sure I have not, for I have writ to nobody. I sailed from Plimouth so long agone as May 11th and am got no further yet than Port Mahon, but before you shall receive this expect to be on tother side of the water; I have been kept here near two months by an odd accident, I dont know whether to call it a lucky one or not, a fall from a horse down a precipice, which cut my face in such a manner as confined me to my room, so that I was forced to have recourse to painting as an amusement at first i have now finished as many portraits as will come to a hundred pounds the unlucky part of the Question is my lips are spoiled for kissing for my upper lip was so bruised that a great peice was cut off* and the rest—that I have but a —— to look at, but in —— wont perceive the defect. So far it has been —— tour to me that can —— When we were at sea I amused myself with reading, and made use of a well chosen library of Books which belonged to the Commodore. I was allways in his Cabbin, and drank with him, so that the voyage did not cost me any thing. There will be the more mony you know to spend at the Jubilee. Whenever the Commodore went a shore at Cadiz Lisbon Gibralter he allways took me with him, and even when he waited upon the Day or King of Algiers I went with him and have had the honour of shaking him by the hand several times, he Introduced me likewise to the Governour here General Blackney in so strong a manner that the Governour insisted on my not being at any expence whilst I was upon the island but to eat at his house and ordered his secretary to provide me a lodging. You may imagine I spend my time very agreably, here are about thirty English ladies Balls continually at the Generals, and on board the ships.

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* Some Account, etc. prefixed to Reynolds' Works, 1797, 4to. Vol. I. p. ix.

* This accident explains the cause of the apparent hare-lip on the right side which is depicted in all the portraits of Reynolds. The dashes in this letter are hiatuses in the original; a small portion, where the folding had broken and weakened the paper, having been torn off and lost, and no letters, even in part, remained to suggest the defective words.

His visit to Italy was productive of another untoward result. His deafness was occasioned by a cold taken in the Vatican, while painting for a long time near a stove, by which the damp vapours of that edifice were attracted, and affected his head. When in company with only one person, he heard very well without the aid of a trumpet, but from the time of his returning from Italy he contrived, by the aid of an ear-trumpet, to partake, with great facility and address, of the conversation of his friends, and such was the placidness of his temper, that what he did not hear he never troubled those with whom he conversed to repeat. Goldsmith, in the last lines he ever wrote, ere his hand failed to wield the pen, most characteristically said of Reynolds—

To coxcombs averse, yet most civilly steering,
When they judg'd, without skill, he was still hard of hearing;
When they talked of their Raffaelle's, Corregios, and stuff,
He shifted his trumpet, and only took snuff.

When I am settled at Rome I will write to you again to let you know how to direct to me in the mean time I shall be much obliged to you if you will call and see that my Goods are safe and not spoiling I would write to him who has them could I think of his name I should be glad if you had a spare place in your garret that could they be at your house

From your slave
J. Reynolds.

P.S. My compliments to Mr. Charlton and Mr. Wilks* I hear the whole world is to be at the Jubilee I hope to see Mr. Charlton at least there—At Lisbon I saw a Bull fight and another at Cadiz, which will be the subject of many conversations hereafter.

Two letters which Reynolds addressed to Miss Weston, after his arrival in Rome, seem never to have reached her.

Dear Miss Weston, I wonder I have not receiv'd an Answer to all the Letters I have sent you this is the third from Rome and one before from Mahon I suppose they have all miscarried so I take this opportunity of sending one by my good Friend Mr. Dalton and a Worthy man he is, I hope he will deliver this himself that you may be acquainted and when I return we shall have many agreeable jaunts together.

I shall set out from Rome immediately after the next Lent or Carnival, Give my service to Mr. Charlton and Mr. Wilks and tell them that if it was possible to give them an idea of what is to be seen here, the remains of Antiquity, the Sculpture, Paintings, Architecture, &c. they would think it worth while, nay they would break through all obstacles and set out immeediately for Rome, then the Carnival of which I have heard so much that I am resolved to stay here to see the next which they say will exceed all the former since there has been none this Jubile or Holy year so the next they [say] will make up for the old and the new. If they would set out so as to be here a Month or two before the Carnival after which Ashley † and I will accompany them (as we intend to do otherwise) to Venice and from thence to Paris seeing every thing between those two places that are worth seeing going now and then a little out of the direct Road and from thence to England or perhaps we shall go to Antwerp first. I am not in jest now but good earnest and wish they would really think of it Mr. Dalton will acquaint them with the time such a journey will take and the Expence, and the most expeditious way of travelling, I dont think they need be out of England above a year I wish them a good journey if they will write me when they set out I will come as far as Florence to meet them.

send me all the news you know, not forgetting to say something about my Goods

I am My Dear Miss Weston,
Yours J. Reynolds.

P.S. Dont forget to remember me to Mrs. Sutherland, Mr. Hart, and Mr. Price if you ever see them and the Mr. Pines not forgetting the little girl at Westminster by the Park. write me immediately by the first post Mr. Dalton will tell you how to direct.

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* John Wilkes, of Middlesex political notoriety.

† John Astley, born at Wem, in Shropshire, the son of a medical practitioner, was placed by his father under Hudson's tuition; how long he remained there is uncertain, but on quitting Hudson he went to Rome, where he and Reynolds met. He was one of the Extraordinaries of his time. On his return to England, after a few months stay in London, he went to Dublin, and in about three years acquired by his pencil three thousand pounds. Again returning to England, he travelled in his own chaise, with an outrider, and was painting his way on to London, when, visiting with another gentleman Knutsford Assembly, Lady Duckenfield Daniel, then present, was so struck with his fine gentlemanly appearance that she contrived to sit to him for her portrait, and proffered him in marriage the original, which he wisely accepted. They were married in January, 1760, but she soon after died, and after the decease of her idiot daughter, by Sir William Daniel, Astley inherited the whole of the Cheshire estates, estimated at 5000*l.* per annum. With this accession of fortune he purchased Schomberg House, in Pall Mall, and divided it into three, retaining the centre for himself. A contemporary has thus described him: —

Nature in her wantonness had moulded his proportions like another Antinous, but left his understanding half-feathered; his vanity raised a vapour in his mind, which hid him from himself; he courted an eleemosynary fame, which led him to imagine that the exterior of decorum rendered moral sentiment unnecessary. He thought that every advantage in civil society was compounded in women and wine; and, acting up to this principle of bliss, he gave his body to Euphrosyne, and his intellects to madness. He was as ostentatious as the Peacock, and as amorous as the Persian Sophi. He would never stir abroad without his bag and his sword, and when the beauties of Ierne sat to him for their portraits, he would affect to neglect the usual implements of his art, and use his unsheathed sword as a maul-stick. Yet what did all this prove but a stronger desire to appear singular than wise. An honourable ambition is unconnected with the views of arrogance, and the practice of such ordinary pride only argues a disposition in the doer to exhibit the weakest points of our nature! He had a harem and a bath at the top of his house, replete with every auxiliary and blandishment to awaken desire, and he thus lived, jocund and thoughtless, until his nerves were unstrung by age, when, with his animal powers, his spirits decayed, he sighed when too late, and drooped into eternity!

In the decline of his life he appeared to be harassed by reflections upon his dissipated conduct, and when near his end was not without apprehensions of being reduced to indigence and want. He died at his house, Duckenfield Lodge, Tabley, Cheshire, November 14, 1787, and was buried in the church of that village.

After Astley's decease Dr. Graham exhibited, in Pall Mall, the delusive wonders of his Celestial Bed; Mrs. Siddons' sister, Mrs. Curtis, representing the Paphian goddess. Messrs. Payne and Foss, booksellers, more recently were the tenants of the same portion of Schomberg House.

'The Mr. Pines' here noticed were John Pine, the celebrated engraver of 'Pine's Horace,' and his two sons, Robert Edge Pine, the painter, and Simon Pine, distinguished as a miniature painter. They resided in the large house that stood on the site of the houses now numbered 88 and 89, in St. Martin's Lane, and were thus Reynolds' neighbours and brother-artists.

To the preceding letter Miss Weston replied, greatly to Reynolds' satisfaction. The affair of 'the Westminster girl, by the Park,' is involved in a now probably impenetrable mystery.

Rome, April 30, 1751.

Dear Miss Weston, Your letter I receiv'd with a great of pleasure and as tis increasing a pleasure to communicate it. I read it to a great many English that were at the Coffee house but without mentioning the writer (tho if I had, it would have been much to your honour) for you must know when a letter comes from England we are all impatient to hear news, and indeed your Letter was full of it, and however it happend every person took the same pleasure in it as my self Mr. Lovelace Mrs. Pine were known to most of the painters, others knew Miss Hambleton and others Mr. More. others Miss Gunnings indeed their fames had reached here some time agone. But nobody but me knew the westminster Girl a lack a lack she has been brought to bed and tis a fine Chumning boy but who is Lord John? well who would have thought it oh the nasty creature to have to do with a man. I am sorry you have been at the expence of paying for my Goods I shall take care to repay you with thanks when I return which will be infallibly this year we set out in about two months time and take the tour of Venice and through Germany and let France alone till next year since it lies so near England that I can take a there in a summer and back again my fellow traveller is Mr. Ashley who lived with Mr. Hudson.

We are all extremely afflicted for the loss of the Prince of Whales* who certainly would have been a great Patron to Painters as he already was to Mr. Dalton I feel an additional sorrow on his account I beg my compliments to him particularly and to all friends. I cannot form to myself any idea of a person more miserable than the Princess of Whales must be, deprived at once of a Husband she loved and with him all thoughts of ambition, Adiu I will not desire you to write any Answer to this Letter because I shall remove from Rome to Florence and other parts of Italy so that you wont know where to direct, but I shall not for this reason neglect writing to you

Remember me to mama

Yours J. Reynolds.

Reynolds, notwithstanding his purposing 'infallibly' to set out in two months time, did not return to England till the next year, 1752, and then became the tenant of the house, No. 5, in Great Newport Street.* Opposite to him resided the two Miss Cotterells, daughters of Admiral Cotterell, with whom Reynolds was soon on visiting terms. Here, one evening, Johnson, who was also intimate with them, happened to be present with Reynolds, when the ladies were regretting the death of a friend, to whom they owed great obligation; upon which Reynolds observed—'You have, however, the comfort of being relieved from the burden of gratitude.' They were somewhat shocked at this alleviating suggestion as too selfish; but Johnson, in his clear forcible manner defended it, and was much pleased with the *mind*, the fair views of human nature which, like some of the Reflections of Rochefoucault, it exhibited. The consequence was that on leaving, he went home with Reynolds, supped with him, and the personal friendship from that night commenced which continued during their lives.

Wholly occupied in his profession, or in his hours of relaxation enjoying a social intercourse with men distinguished in society, the married life would seem to have failed in proffering any inducement to Reynolds to disturb the even quiet tenor of his every day career. He seems to have stood aloof from all temptation, and the instance of Miss Weston appears to have been, on her part, one of misplaced affection. She, it would seem, lived on neglected by him, and unconsoled. Sir Joshua Reynolds died Feb. 23, 1792, when the particulars which are known respecting her, soon after transpired, and may be thus told.

In the vicinity of Fulham resided an elderly lady, of elegant manners, but very poor. Her deportment and language were such as to induce many enquiries as to her real name and progress in life, to all which she was silent. At length age, sickness, and want brought her to her death-bed, and she experienced the kindest attentions from a particular family in that neighbourhood. The repetition of these kindnesses induced her, in her dying state, in answer to these enquiries, to make the following declaration—'I have been well educated and tenderly reared. It was my misfortune in the early part of my life to be considered as handsome, and I became the toast of the hour; many young gentlemen paid their addresses to me, but without the desired effect, as I had fixed my virgin predilections on a gentleman who, by the suavity of his manners, and the force of his accomplishments, became the point of admiration in those circles in which I then moved, and I was inclined to believe that our passion was mutual, but, alas! how egregiously, how fatally was I deceived! but let me not bear too heavily upon his memory, for he is now no more—who he was, and what I am, you may know when I die, if you have the curiosity to examine the contents of that trunk, which certainly contains but little of any value to you; though I have

* Frederick, Prince of Wales, father of King George the Third, died at Leicester House, Leicester Square, March 20, 1751.

* Reynolds' rooms are now Rutley's Picture Galleries.

ever considered it as my ark, which inclosed the covenant between the idol of my mind and my weak heart. All I have now to entreat of you is, that in addition to your various and unmerited attentions towards me, you will not suffer my remains to be interred at the expense of the parish. I am not assured that, at such a crisis, this sort of pride is philosophic; but, if it is folly, pity, and indulge me.' In a few hours more she ceased to breathe, and her request was minutely complied with. The trunk she had referred to was unlocked, and the letters from Reynolds addressed to her were then found. They are now before the reader, who may rest assured of their reality.

LILIORUM ORTUS.

Mary was no longer upon the earth; the Apostles had buried her with becoming rites. The third day the tomb was open—it was empty, and instead of the pure and fragrant body, there was a growth of lilies upon the earth which she had touched, and angelic choirs, with glad voices, were heard singing day and night the glories of their risen Queen. J. H. NEANDER.

Rumor it velox Asiæ per urbes,
It per Europæ populos, Mariæ
Spiritum Sanctæ petiisse nuper
Atria cœli.

Protinus mira pietate ducti,
Evolant Sancti peregre frequentes,
Matris ut visant tumulum Beatæ
Reliquiasque.

Plurimi attrito properant gerentes
Perulam collo, baculoque nixi
Dirigunt gressus, pedibusque signant
Devia nudis.

Hi petunt arces Solymæ remotas
Qua domum fertur posuisse Virgo
Mater, et late loca multa circum
Davidis urbem.

Insuper vastos alii pererrant
Græciæ campos, Ephesumque, et omnes
Permeant terras ubicumque visa est
Sancta Maria.

Attamen nusquam reperitur almæ
Virginis corpus, cinis, aut sepulcrum;
Nullaque in terris monumenta restant
Reliquiarum.

Tunc suos omnes graviter viarum
Tædio fessi repetunt penates,
Et pie spectant dubiæ futura
Lumina menti.

Nuncius tandem benecolentis Euri
Flatibus latus venit Occidentem
Versus; et pectus tremulum repente
Gaudia complent.

Fertur, ut, cum jam moritura sensit,
Bis statim senos pia convocarit,
Utque bis seni tumulo decenter
Ossa locarint.

Fertur, ut, solis rutili ter orta
Luce desertum fuerit sepulcrum,
Vivaque in cœlos ierit resumpto
Corpore sancto!

Ut solum flores, modo qua jacebat
Corpus intactum, niveos videri
Miserit densos, et odore suavi
Lilia blanda!

Utque Reginæ fidibus canoris
Gloriam et laudes super astra vectæ
Turba cœlestis celebrarit omnis
Nocte dieque!

Tota gens ortum trahit hinc pudicum
Visa non ulli prius orbe toto,
Purior pura nive Liliorum,
Teste Neandro!

Hawkshead, Oct. 12. D. B. H.

ORIGIN OF THE WORD FLETA.

In Brooke's Bibliotheca Legum Angliæ is embodied a general account of Laws and Law-writers; among them under King Edward the First is noticed—Fleta, seu Commentarius Juris Anglicani. It is described as a general treatise of the Law, in the method of Bracton, defining the alterations in the practice, not much later than 1285, the 13th of this King, as appears to be well established by Selden in his learned Dissertation (cap. 10, s. 2) prefixed to the printed copies of this work, although by Lord Coke and others it has been held to be of a somewhat later date. Brooke states—the title, as the author informs his readers, was adopted from the circumstance of the book having been composed while he was a prisoner in the Fleet. Selden published the work in 1647, from the only known manuscript, then in the Cottonian library; but as the author is wholly unknown, some doubts have arisen as to the above assertion respecting the origin of the word Fleta, which may be a corrupt phrase caused in the following manner.

The double F or Ff is used in law books to signify Digestum, the Ff being in fact no other than a corruption or error of the copyists, and by them substituted for the D of the German Text, or of the Court-hand, the initial of Digestum. Hence the first letter of the word Fleta to signify Digestum. The fourth letter, that is to say the t, was originally the rectangular g, and the stroke at the bottom being obliterated or obscure, the remainder would resemble the Greek Gamma or Γ, which the copyist might mistake for a T. Restoring the whole on these assumptions it would read thus—Ff. Leg. A., implying Digestum Legum Anglie, which, the Tract being a Digest of the Laws of England, is its proper title.

DERIVATION OF INDIAN NAMES OF PLACES.

The words Poor or Pore which terminate the names of so many Indian cities and settlements, signify town. Thus Nagpore means the Town of Serpents—a definition, by the way, not inappropriate when we reflect on the treacherous character of the Sepoys, by whom it was so recently garrisoned.

Abad and patam, have also the same signification—Hyderabad, implying Hyder's town; and Seringapatam, from Sreringa, a name of the god Vishnoo, being the town of Sreringa. Allahabad, from Allah, God, and abad, abode, means the abode of God, that city being the capital of Agra, the chief school of the Brahmins, and as such much resorted to by pilgrims. The Punjab is the country of the Five Rivers, and Doab is applied to that part of a country which is between two rivers.

MANUFACTURE OF GLASS BY THE CHINESE.

Delighted as my family, with many thousands more were, with all that was displayed at the Treasures of Art Exhibition, it was noticed that among the many fine specimens of Venetian Glass, there were none of the Chinese manufacture, nor have I seen any elsewhere; may I ask how this happens, for of the porcelain of the choicest description there was no lack?

Manchester, Oct. 15. CESTRIENSIS.

The manufacture of glass was not known to the Chinese till early in the last century, and China-ware or porcelain serves for all domestic and ornamental uses throughout the vast empire of China. John Bell of Antermony, then in the service of Peter the First, in his admirable account of the Journey of the Russian Embassy from Petersburgh to Pekin, in 1720, furnishes the most satisfactory evidence on this point. The details are in the form of a journal, and under the date of December 12, are thus narrated.

We were conducted to the Emperor's glass house [at Pekin], which his Imperial Majesty [Kamhi] often visits with pleasure. It was erected by himself, and is the first manufactory of the kind that ever was in China. The person employed to superintend and carry on this design was Kilian Stumpff, a German father, lately deceased, a man in great favour with the Emperor, and well known in China for his ingenuity and literature. His Majesty is so fond of this glass-work, that he sent several of the most curious of its productions as a present to his Czarish Majesty. It is surprising that the Chinese, who have been constantly employed for so many ages in the manufacture of China-ware, should never have stumbled upon that of glass. This shows evidently, that the degree of heat required in their ovens cannot be very great, or their materials must be free from sand; for it is certain they had no knowledge of glass of any kind till this house was erected. I was informed, that not long ago, some Europeans brought to Canton a parcel of prisms, or triangular glasses, which the Chinese took for natural productions of rock crystal, and bought them at the price of one hundred ounces of silver a-piece, but from the great number imported, they soon discovered their mistake.

Charles Hulbert, Esq., author of the History of Salop, died on the 7th inst. at Hadnall, near Shrewsbury.

PRICES OF PRAYER BOOKS, TEMP. EDWARD VI.

Richard Grafton printed in 1552, in folio, "The Boke of Common Praier and Administration of the Sacramentes and other Rites and Ceremonies in the Churche of Englande;" and at the end is the following intimation:

This Booke is truly and diligently imprinted.

¶ THE PRICES THEREOF.

The Imprynter to sell this Booke in quires for two shillynges and sixepence and not above; bound in Parchemente, or Forell, for three shillinges and fourepence, and not aboue; and bounde in Lether, in paper bordes, or claspes, for foure shillynges and not aboue. And at the nexte Impression the Imprynter leauying out the fourmes of making and consecratyng of Archebishoppes, Bisshoppes, Priestes and Deacons, shal sel the said Booke in quires, for two shillynges, and not aboue. And bound in Forel, for two shillynges and eight pence, and not aboue; and bound in Lether, in paste bordes, or claspes, for thre shillynges and foure pence, and not aboue.

CRUX GRAMMATICORUM.

The Rev. John Dickes, rector of the parish of Dunkerton, a village four miles from Bath, died in 1634, when the following epitaph was inscribed to his memory.

Hic, hæc, hoc, hujus, huic, hunc bonus, optima, clarum,
Fulgor, Fama, Decus, vestit, adhæret, erit
Mente, anima, oh! requiem vivens ΔΙΟΕΚΛΕΤΟΣ ille
Carpsit honore sacro, jam super astra manet.

This sentence, a grammatical puzzle, may be thus translated —

Good renown clothed him; best fame adhered;
Unspotted will be his credit, both in mind and soul;
Living he was God's friend; in sacred honour
Rest he obtained, and lives above the stars.

NELLY O'BRIEN.—Among the Marquis of Hertford's Pictures, exhibited, with other Treasures of Art, at Manchester, the whole length portrait of Nelly O'Brien held a deservedly grand position, and excited the most intense admiration. She was what the world terms 'a Courtesan,' and Reynolds painted this magnificent and enduring specimen of his professional skill in 1760. He painted another, a half-length, in 1763. She died in Park Street, Grosvenor Square, in March, 1768, when possibly what effects she possessed were broadly dispersed, as, strange to say, in the same year that Boydell paid Reynolds five hundred guineas for his Cardinal Beaufort, this fine painting of Nelly was sold in Christie's Rooms for only three guineas!

Thomas Crawford, Sculptor, Rome; a native of New York; died in the morning of Saturday, the 10th inst., in London.

BLAIR'S CHRONOLOGY. The preface to the edition, 1844, signed Henry Ellis, states the volume 'has been reconstructed from the folio edition, by a literary friend, who is disinclined at a late period of life, to appear publicly as the Editor of a Critical Work.' Is it known who this 'literary friend' was?

Bedford Street, Oct. 13. H. C. N.

The work was wholly edited by Mr. John Sharpe, bookseller, formerly of 24, Duke Street, Piccadilly, well known as the publisher of some very elegant editions of British Poets and Prose Writers.

IVORY DIPTYCHS AND TRIPTYCHS.

There is a general idea that these were portable altars, because we find many pictures as Altar-pieces divided into two or three portions. Small tablets were thus put together by hinges forming Diptychs, Triptychs, or Polyptychs, of which numerous specimens were lately exhibited in the Collection of Ivories, at Manchester. Among those in the Mayer Collection were two, one of the Consul Clementinus, A D. 513; and another, the most remarkable, representing Esculapius and Hygeia as the God and Goddess of health. It is well known the consular Diptychs were tables presented to them by their friends, often upon their acceptance of office or initiation. It seems also that anciently in the early church, the names of Saints to be commemorated were read out of these Tablets or Diptychs on certain festivals: from these circumstances I gather, that the idea commonly entertained that such wing-diptychs were portable altars is a misconception. In most cases they must have been ridiculously small for such a purpose; but probably, they were used for devotional purposes, containing as they did, figures of saints, or scriptural subjects, and held in the hands of the devotee when reciting his prayers, the ave-maria, and the paternoster for instance.

Any information, however, which might be communicated in illustration of this subject, hitherto very imperfectly discussed, would be very acceptable to me. Particularly, if it would have reference to the more ancient diptychs, such as those referred to at the beginning of this article, their origin, uses, etc., in connection with later ones; and if an engraving could be obtained of these, it would, I am sure be a great gratification to many of the readers of Current Notes.

I should wish also to ask if any of those Ivories of Consular date are in the British Museum? Those already referred to were recently in the Fejerváry Collection.

Oct. 17. E. B.

The Maskell Collection of Ivories in the British Museum comprises numerous examples of diptychs and triptychs; most of them of very early date, some being of the fourth, fifth, and sixth centuries.

ORAM.—What is the title and date of the Works of Samuel Marsh Oram, the poet of Shaftesbury; his parentage; and if there be any descendants of him now in existence?

Inner Temple, Oct. 6. T. P. LANGMEAD.

Oram's lucubrations were entitled — Poems, 1794, 4to., Price Two shillings and six-pence.

NAPOLEON'S CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA.

What were the general losses sustained by the belligerents in that madly directed invasion? The question arose in some discussions on the present position of Europe, but the most opposite assertions were made, indicating that no one possessed any real knowledge of the facts.

Southampton, Oct. 8. T. P.

Colonel Michaud who accompanied the central staff of the French army in 1812 to Moscow, published at Dresden a narrative of the Campaign, from the time of the advance from Gumbiggen to the return to Konigsberg. The French and their allies, Austria, Saxony, Wirtemberg and Bavaria, began the campaign with 270,000 men, and those who returned were scarcely 170,000; 30,000 of these being incapacitated for service. In every conflict with the Russians the French and their allies were victorious, but owing to Swartzenberg and Regnier directing their operations to the southward, the Grand Army was compelled to take the field, in order to maintain its communications, with Reaumur at 20° below the freezing point. The consequence was that its force of 85,000 men, was in twenty-five days reduced to less than 50,000. He calculated from the official returns, that in the various battles down to Nov. 15, the French and their allies lost, 20,000 killed, 20,000 wounded, and 10,000 taken prisoners. In the retreat from Smolensko they lost 5000 in killed and wounded, and from the severity of the weather nearly 30,000. The Russians are calculated to have lost in the several battles in killed, wounded and prisoners, not less than 162,000, and the pecuniary losses, one-fifth of the entire property of the empire. The loss of horses on both sides in November and December were estimated as exceeding 60,000.

FABLE OF THE FLOWERS.

Through the medium of your pages, I wish to ask who is the author of the lines beginning —

All hail, ye gentle courtesies of life;

Or, Ye gentle courtesies of life, all hail!

Also, whether the idea embodied in the following quotation from 'The Statue Shrine,' a lately published poem, is new? and if not, where I shall find it?

I know a fable of the flowers!
The first young maid who loved and lost
Her lover on the faithless wave,
In dying, all her sweetness gave
To ev'ry bud that spring can boast;
And since that time, from flow'rs and groves,
All fragrance seaward ever roves,
And leaves the marge of ev'ry shore
To seek its love the ocean o'er.

Rochester, Oct. 17. H. G. A.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXXIII.] "Takes note of what is done— By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [NOVEMBER, 1857.

TO FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

Amissos queritur fœtus Philomela sub umbrâ,
Ipsa magis musicis commemorata modis;
LUSCINIA ast nobis FLORENTIA gratius olim
Carmen, et auspicium, spe meliore, dedit;
Lætitiæ voces, blandi medicamina vultûs,
Indefessa manus, Religionis amor—
Itæ tibi erant artes O spectatissima Virgo!
Freta quibus, magnum mens tua gessit opus:
Nobilis ante alias vives, Lux splendida sæc'li,
Nec fama evadet, nec morietur honos;
Anglica te tellus—Pia te Regina beabit,
Te servata cohors—te sacer Ipse Deus!

Newport, Essex, Nov. 2. WILLIAM HILDYARD.

PORCELAIN COLLECTIONS.

Collectors of China-ware or porcelain, a century and a half since were a prescribed class of individuals, there were but few shop-keepers, and the taste of Collectors was but ill defined. Specimens then as now, passed from one collection to another in a cracked or broken condition, and many are yet extant in old mansions regarded as household lares and looked on with a long-cherished religious veneration, notwithstanding their deficiencies in soundness.

Among those who seem to have had a passion for collecting, was Sir John Newton, Bart., of Barr's Court, Gloucestershire, and the following china-dealer's bill addressed to him, will doubtless interest many readers of Current Notes.

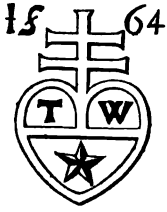
Sir John Newton,
Bought of James Lund and Lluellin Aspley,
at the Crane in the Poultry.

March 29°, 1701.

1 pair of fine China Jarrs, painted with gold	1	6	0
1 pair of blew China Rowlwaggons	1	8	0
4 China chocolet cups and 4 saucers in colers	0	13	4
2 ditto chocolet cups and 2 saucers	0	8	0
4 small China bottles	0	3	0
1 China teapot	0	3	0
3 pair of bottles, and 3 faulty cups	0	2	6
12 delf saucers	0	4	0
	4	7	10
1 pair of small bottles, with gold	0	2	6
9 faulty chocolet and tea cups in colers	0	3	0
	4	13	4
Agreed to abate of the upper percell	0	2	10
	4	10	6

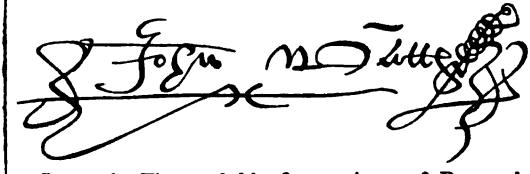
KING JAMES THE FIRST A CLOTH-WORKER.

On the east side of Mark, or as formerly designated Mart Lane, Fenchurch Street, on the premises No. 12, remained some ten or fifteen years since, sculptured on stone, the merchant's mark which indicated the house in 1564, when possibly it was erected, as the residence of Thomas Watts, of Buntingford, in the county of Herts, Citizen and Clothworker of London. These premises adjoined the back of Clothworkers' Hall.



John Watts the son and successor of this Thomas Watts, was also a Citizen and Clothworker. He married Margaret, the daughter of Sir James Hawes, Knight, Citizen and Clothworker, who served Sheriff in 1565-6, and was Lord Mayor in 1574-5. By his wife Margaret, John Watts had issue four sons and four daughters.

He was Warden of the Company of Clothworkers, in 1587; Master in 1594; and in the same year was elected Alderman of Aldersgate Ward. In 1596-7, he served the office of Sheriff, and on July 2, 1597, had granted to him under the hand and seal of Richard Lee Clarencieux, the arms—Argent, two bars Azure, in chief three pellets. Crest—A Sea-hound's head, couped proper.* His autograph is thus given,†



James the First and his Queen Anne of Denmark, were crowned July 15, 1603, and the 26th of the same month, John Watts with eighteen other Aldermen of London received the honour of Knighthood. Sir John Watts served the office of Lord Mayor in 1606-7, and during his mayoralty the King condescended to visit him at the Mayor's house in Mark Lane. The particulars of this event are embodied in a memorial in the possession of the Clothworkers Company, placed below an engraved portrait of the monarch, by Robert White, from a painting by Cornelius Janssen.

* Harl. MS. 1435, fol. 19.

† Lansdowne MS. 145, p. 335. A letter dated Dec. 15, 1588, signed by Hugh Offley, Alderman, then Lord Mayor; and himself.

MEMORANDUM:

That on the 12th day of June, Anno Dnī 1607, the high and mighty Prince JAMES, by the grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, etc., Attended on by the Duke of Lenox and divers other Earls, Barons, Knights and Gentlemen, repaired unto his City of London, to the house of Sir JOHN WATTS, Lord Mayor of the said City, where his Highness and all his attendants were joyfully received and royally feasted; at which time the said Lord Mayor being free of the Company of Clothworkers', and Sir William Stone, Knt., Master of the said Company, and the Wardens and divers of the assistants of the said Company being there present, became humble suitors to his Majesty that he would be pleased to honour the said Company of Clothworkers by vouchsafing to be free thereof; to the which, his Highness being informed that some of his predecessors, Kings of England, had heretofore vouchsafed to be free of some other of the Companies of the said City; graciously condescended, and thereupon his Highness at the humble motion of the said Lord Mayor and Sir William Stone, Knt., was pleased to repair unto the Common Hall of the said Company of Clothworkers, adjoining unto the House of the said Lord Mayor, and then and there being seated in a chair of green velvet, in the presence of the said Duke of Lenox, and the Earls, Barons, Knights and Gentlemen attending on him, and of the said Lord Mayor; Sir William Stone, the Wardens and others of the said Company, kneeling before him, and of divers others, his Highness was pleased openly to publish, that he would from thenceforth be a free brother of the said Company of Clothworkers, and his Majesty was then also pleased to drink to the said Lord Mayor; Sir William Stone, and the rest of the said Company, by the name of his good Brethren the Clothworkers, praying to God to bless all good Clothworkers, and all good Clothwearers.

Whereupon the said Lord Mayor, Sir William Stone, and the rest of the Company in token of their great joy and thankfulness, kissed his Majesty's royal hands, and the said Sir William Stone, and the Wardens of the said Company with all humility and reverence then and there admitted his Majesty into the Brotherhood of the said Company, and also caused his Highness' name to be registered in their book as a free brother of the said Company, with the which his Highness was very well pleased, and of his princely bounty then and there gave unto the said Company, Two braces of Bucks yearly for ever.

For the perpetual Memory of which Honour vouchsafed unto the said Company by his Highness, it was enacted and decreed by the Master, Wardens and Assistants of the said Company, that the same should be recorded and registered in a fair Table to remain in the Common Hall of the said Company for ever.

Sir John Watts died in September 1616, and was buried on the 7th at Ware, Hertfordshire. His will obtained probate in the same month.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. H.

CONSOLATION.

For most mishaps beneath the sun,
A remedy there is, or none —
If aught there be, seek to find it;
Where none is, then — never mind it!

FLETA.—The derivation in Current Notes is ingenious: but it contains its own refutation in supposing the double *f* or *ff* of the law-books to be a substitution by the copyists for the D of the German text or of the Court hand. Neither the German nor Court hand D has the slightest resemblance to the double F; the *ff* of the Civil-law books is in truth a substitution for the Greek Π, the initial of Pandectæ; and one conversant with the literature of Roman law must as frequently have met Π as with *ff* to indicate the Pandect or Digest.

Edinburgh, Oct. 27. J. M.

CRUX GRAMMATICORUM.

The epitaph on the Rev. John Dickes, in Current Notes, p. 79, is a wretched attempt at Correlative Verses. It is neither Latin nor Greek—'Hic fulgur, hæc fama, hoc decus,' etc. There is no such thing as an Article in the Latin language, although we are told by Lily in King Edward the Sixth's Latin Grammar, edit. Oxford, 1673, that 'Articles are borrowed of the Pronoun.' Διόεκλεγος is not Greek, and no where else to be found. I suppose the author of the epitaph intended by this monstrous compound to express the words of St. Luke, ch. xxiii. v. 35, τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐκλεκτος, chosen of God. Compare Mark, ch. xiii. v. 27. Romans, ch. viii. v. 33. Coloss. ch. iii. v. 12. Titus, ch. i. v. i. etc.; but words compounded with Διο refer not to the 'Living God,' but to Jupiter, or some other heathenish deity.

The most ancient Correlative Verses, are, I believe, the two following Distichs.

VIRGILIUS loquitur.

Pastor, arator, eques, pavi, colui, superavi,
Capras, rus, hostes, fronde, ligone, manu.

CICERO loquitur.

Defendo, tutor, servo, a face, cæde, cruore,
Civis, dux, consul, tecta, patres, Latium.

These if compared with the epitaph, will show the absurdity of that composition.

We find also the following on

DIANA.

Luna, Diana, Hecate, Cœlo, sylvis, Ereboque,
Astra, canes, animas, ducit, agit, cruciat.

PROSERPINA.

Terret, lustrat, agit, Proserpina, luna, Diana,
Ima, superna, feras, sceptro, fulgore, sagittis.

I intend again referring to this subject.

Hawkshead, November 9. D. B. H.

INSCRIPTION ON DRINKING CUP.

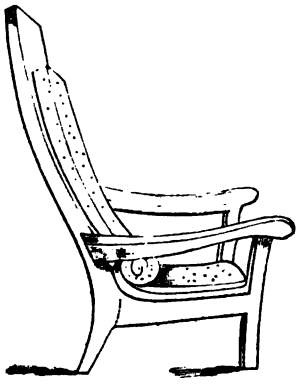
The following inscription is engraved on an ancient drinking cup—'Nichts unsaubers kan mein hertz endtzünden.' Would any of your Correspondents kindly favour me with a translation?

Twynholm, Nov. 12. J. M.

Literally—Nothing impure can kindle or inflame my heart. Nothing unclean affects me.

NAPOLEON'S CHAIR AT ST. HELENA.

Not infrequently the most curious and valued reliques of distinguished and great men are met with in places where they are to be least expected, nor would any one have supposed that in the manse of the old parish of Crail, in the east of Fifeshire, Scotland, was deposited the chair commonly used by the Emperor Napoleon during his exile in St. Helena, but such is nevertheless true. The chair, now in the possession of the Rev. — Merson, the hospitableparishminister of Crail, is made of a very indifferent piece of mahogany; the stuffed seat and cushion at the back being covered with chintz. The accompanying sketch taken by me from the chair, will afford a tolerable idea of its appearance and form.



The Rev. — Merson has favoured me with the following particulars of its transit to Scotland.

Capt. Barclay, of the ship Sophia, being at St. Helena, when the effects of Napoleon Buonaparte were sold, purchased this chair at a large price from Mr. Saul Solomon, the Jew merchant, who bought most of what had belonged to the late Emperor. Capt. Barclay took it to Calcutta, and there presented it to his friend, Mr. Cudbert Thornhill Glass, E.I.C.C.S., who sent it to his father, the late Colonel Glass, of Abby Park, St. Andrews, under the care of Major Burns, son of the poet Robert Burns. The Major stated, the chair caused a great sensation on its homeward passage, and among other incidents, mentioned the fact that a Frenchman on board, fell down before it and kissed it.

When Colonel Glass's furniture was sold in 1851, the chair was brought to the manse of Crail. Mr. Merson being the Colonel's son-in-law.

Brechin, November 2. A. J.

EDUCATION. Those who are entertained and educated at the public expence, the public have a fair right to their disposition; and it is certainly for the public good, that they are appointed to such employments as are most in want of labourers.

The children of very poor or dishonest people, should be adopted by the public in time, if it can be done without violence to the natural right of the parent, lest instead of serving, they come to injure the public, either through poverty or bad education; as it is better to make men good, than to hang those which are bad.

Magens.

JOHNSONIAN RELIQUES.

Dr. Johnson's introduction to the Thrales, was after his becoming 'Johnson of that ilk;' after his moval from Inner Temple Lane, to Johnson's Court in Fleet Street, at midsummer 1765, and was then busied in the production of his Shakespeare, printed in that year. Thrale was then possessed of a house, in West Street, Brighton, built for him, and which remains in the same state as when inhabited by his family. Miss Burney, subsequently Madame D'Arblay, speaks of it as one of the most considerable houses in the town, and that it was exactly opposite the King's Head, where Charles the Second lay hid waiting the opportunity to leave England — 'I fail not,' she adds, 'to look at it with loyal satisfaction, and his black-wigged Majesty has from the time of the Restoration been its sign.' 'His black-wigged Majesty' has however long since disappeared.

Mrs. Mostyn, the last survivor of Thrale's daughters, long resident at Sillwood Lodge, Brighton, died there recently, and her effects were sold on the premises from October 15th to the 23rd. The library consisted of 2700 volumes, and the decorative property was such as may readily be supposed would be treasured by a lady, who looked on such matters as they appeared to the eye, that is, as to their prettiness, not their utility in illustration of times long since gone by—the modern works, copies of old illuminations, seem to have been the main object of her pursuit. Still several articles referred to the period when the great Lexicographer in his connexion with the Thrales, not only derived much personal gratification, but he also conferred considerable celebrity on a family that had no particular prominency to render them distinguished, either in intellect or position. Johnson observed an obsequious course of conduct towards his 'Mistress;' and 'Master' was unquestionably most happy to secure Johnson's visits to his Table; his associates were with himself ever welcome; and though the Doctor was frequently bearish in his remarks, they were pardonably passed over as the ebullitions of a mind ill at ease, and at times pressed on by infirmities.

Among the books, lot 206, was an odd folio volume of Saurin's Commentary on the Bible, purchased at a book sale in 1766, by Dr. Johnson for Streatham Park library for 2*s* 9*d*; but having some manuscript notes on the margins by Mrs. Thrale, subsequently Piozzi, was bought in by the family, for forty guineas—against the bidding of a London bookseller of forty pounds.

In 1774, some property in Wales belonging to Mrs. Thrale's family devolved by bequest to her, and Johnson accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Thrale thither to take possession. The Doctor's Diary during that Journey, remained in manuscript till 1816, when Duppa admirably placed it before the public. Mrs. Mostyn at considerable expense had a copy inlaid in large folio, and had commenced illustrating this work with drawings and prints of places noticed throughout; with some portraits

of Mrs. Piozzi, and other persons of the Cotton and Mostyn families. Messrs. Nattali and Bond purchased this collection.

Lot 445, were two volumes of prints and other collections relating to Brighton, purchased by Mr. T. Attree of the Queen's Park, for 15*l.* 10*s.* Among these papers were three letters; one from Thrale to his wife, undated as regards the year; one from Dr. Johnson to Mrs. Thrale, dated Ashbourne, Nov. 4, 1772; and a third, from Mrs. Thrale to Dr. Johnson, 1777. These letters are here published seriatim. The superscription on the first is — 'Mrs. Thrale, Streatham, Surrey.'

Brighton, Friday Morning, 5th March.

This letter should have been sent by the post last night; but behold, there was no post out, and therefore it will come by the *Dili John*. Your verses have been much admired, and particularly by Mrs. Trevor, who I take to be the best judge of ye language: she has taken a copy of them. I make no doubt of seeing some great strokes struck by the time I get home, which will certainly be on Monday to dinner, though, upon second thoughts, you had better not wait after five o'clock, as Major and Mrs. Holroyd have insisted upon my going the Chailey Road and breakfasting with them at Sheffield, which is a longer and heavier road than ours; but as they go, I think, on Saturday in a great measure to show me their place on Monday, I could not decently avoid it. I shall do it upon a promise they have made of calling at Streatham, the first time they come to town. Lady Poole is very happy at the very honourable mention you make of her, and the Augecock wonders what you think he must be made of to forget all your civilities. He reminds me much of Musgrave, so quick for applause. Puss admires herself much in the glass, and we have breakfasted and dined together every day this week very comfortably. Good night — its past one o'clock, and I am to be on horseback at nine in the morning.

Yours affectionately,
H. THRALE.

P.S. If you were always to write such good letters as your last, I should stay where I am and make you play Lady Cotton.

Dr. Johnson's letter to Mrs. Thrale, was printed by Mrs. Piozzi, in her Letters to and from Dr. Samuel Johnson, 1788, vol. I. p. 62; but the usual inaccuracies which are found in that publication, are here apparent in this transcript from the original.

Ashbourne, Nov. 4, 1772.

Dear Madam, We keep writing to each other when by the confession of each there is nothing to be said; but on my part, I find it very pleasing to write, and what is pleasing is very willingly continued.

I hope your procriptions [prescriptions] have been successful, and Mr. Thrale is well. What pity it is that we cannot do something for the poor lady! Since I came to Ashbourne I have been out of order: I was ill at Lichfield. You know sickness will drive me to you, and perhaps you very heartily wish me better; but you know likewise that health will not hold me away, and I hope that, sick or well,

I am, Madam,
Your most humble servant,
SAM. JOHNSON.

The 'poor lady' was Mrs. Thrale's mother, Mrs. Salusbury, then in ill health, and daily growing worse. Dr. Johnson in his letter from Ashbourne, Michaelmas-day, 1777, to Mrs. Thrale, observes

— At Streatham there are dears and dears, who before this letter reaches them will be at Brighthelmstone. Where ever they be, may they have no uneasiness but for want of me.

Now you are gone, I wonder how long you design to stay; pray let me know when you write to Lichfield, for I have not lost hope of coming to you, yet that purpose may chance to fail; but my comfort is, that you cannot charge me with forgetting you when I am away. You perhaps do not think how eagerly I expect the post.

Johnson hated Brighton, and though he derived some pleasurable results from bathing in the sea, he considered Thrale's house as situated at 'the world's end;' the country about it did not please him. He loved the sight of forest trees and detested Brighthelmstone Downs, because, as he said, 'it was a country so truly desolate, that if one had a mind to hang one's self for desperation at being obliged to live there, it would be difficult to find a tree on which to fasten the rope.'

The letters referring to this period as printed by Mrs. Piozzi, are wrongly dated; Dr. Burney had evidently gone with the Thrales to Brighton, as shewn by Mrs. Thrale in the third letter here noticed, addressed — Dr. Samuel Johnson, Rev. Dr. Taylor's, at Ashbourne, Derby, and franked H. Thrale; it is not published by her among the letters in either of the two volumes. It would seem to be her first letter on their arrival to Johnson.

Brighton, 2nd October, 1777.

Dear Sir, Here we are, not very elegantly accommodated, but wishing sincerely for you to share either our pleasure, or our distresses. 'Tis fine bathing with rough breakers, and my Master longs to see you exhibit your strength in opposing them, and bids me press you to come, for he is tired of living so long without you; and Burney says if you dont come soon, he shall be gone, and he does love you, or he is a vile —. But one woman in the water to-day,

Una et hæc audax

Was your most faithful and obliged,
H. L. THRALE.

Johnson was too ill to immediately obey this summons, he however managed later in that month to proceed to Brighton, where he met Beauclerk, and staid three days.

Lot 23, The Johnson Letters as published by Mrs. Piozzi; her Journey through France, and her British Synonymy, in all 6 vols., in yellow morocco, sold for 6*l.* 7*s* 6*d*; bought for some one of the family.

FIFTH OF NOVEMBER! memorable in English annals. In 1605, the Popish plot was discovered. 1689, William, Prince of Orange landed at Torbay in Devonshire; and in 1855, at Inkermann, Protestant and Catholic laymen repelled the Muscovite aggression on the liberties of the World.

TOWER ON GLASTONBURY TOR.

Over the old Town of Glastonbury rises the Tor, crowned by its ruined tower, characterized by many of the features of the numerous Somersetshire churches, perhaps, heavier as a whole than most of them. In the town of Glastonbury there are two of finer design, and far more elegant in their elevation than this one. The tower, however, upon the summit of Glastonbury Tor is remarkable as standing alone, unconnected with any church, nor could I find any traces of one in former time; probably, the tower was used for other purposes than those in the town, which would suffice for all ecclesiastical uses.

The principal elevation of the Tower is enriched with two courses of niches and double windows, with inserted blocks of sculpture. The door is worthy of notice for its proportions, which are considering its style, remarkably good. Above it, on either side is a sculpture, one is represented in the annexed sketch—a female saint is apparently in the act of milking a cow: a very unlikely position for the representation of a saint, and it is the strangeness of this circumstance that induces me to forward this query.

What saint may this be? Is there any story connected with this carving? Its fellow on the other side of the arch, apparently represents the Last Judgment, and the avenging angel weighing in the scales of Justice, the wicked against the good. I have some recollection of hearing a legend which is told about this solitary tower, but I should feel much obliged to any of your Correspondents who may have met with it, refreshing my memory on the point.

T. H. Pattison.

Hearne quoting the monkish annalists, states that the Saints Phaganus and Dervianus founded an oratory to St. Michael on this mound, and that St. Patrick, who came hither from Ireland in A.D. 439, finding it in a ruined condition, restored it, placing therein two holy men Arnulphus and Ogwar, two Irish monks whom he brought from Ireland. St. Patrick having repaired St. Michael's chapel on the top of the Torr, which from this time, if I mistake not, was called, the Hill of St. Michael, or St. Michael's Mount, to the time of the Reformation, after which, I conceive it was called the Torr, from the tower, the only part of the Chapel now left standing.* Hearne further notices — The ruinous Tower still there standing, may be seen many miles round the Countrey, and strikes a man still with a kind of awe and devotion.†

Collinson intimates — Not only the town but the environs of Glastonbury, abound with religious reliques. The most conspicuous is the Tor or Tower of St. Michael, standing upon a very high hill, north-eastward from the town. On this bleak and desolate spot, the Saints Phaganus and Dervianus erected a small oratory to the honour of St. Michael the archangel, which was reedified by St. Patrick, and beautified by some of his successors. These abbots enlarged upon the original plan, and built here not only a large and elegant church and monastery, designated the monastery of St. Michael de Torre in the isle of Glaston, but also other buildings, dwelling houses and offices, and obtained many grants of privileges from several of the kings. The whole of the buildings which had been erected on this hill by several abbots at a vast expense, the labour being very great to carry materials up the immense ascent, were totally destroyed by the earthquake which happened in 1271, but afterwards more splendidly rebuilt, and that church erected, of which the tower remains, an object of admiration to travellers, and an ornament to the surrounding country. At the west end of it, is carved the figure of St. Michael the archangel, holding in his hand a pair of Scales, in one of which is the Bible; in the other a devil, and another devil hanging on in the endeavour to make weight, but are both too light.* The Tower of St. Michael, as well as King Alfred's tower at Stourton, were both the property of the late Sir Richard Colt Hoare, who contributed the plate to Collinson's History, in which these two Towers are admirably represented.

Hearne, p. 48, with more probability affirms—'the dreadful earthquake that threw down St. Michael's church upon the Torr, happened on the 11th day of September, 1276.' He adds—This church beyond all dispute was again built, since the editors of the Monasticon, in the account they give us of Glastonbury, say, that the church upon the Torr, fell in King Henry the Eighth's days with the abbey. These appear to have been granted by King Edward the Sixth on June 4, 1550, in consideration of his petition, and the advice of his counsel, to Edward Seymour Duke of Somerset, to support his dignity. He doubtless sold the materials, with the exception of the Tower.

Neither Hearne or Collinson suggest any elucidation of the questioned figure submitted by our Correspondent.

* History and Antiquities of Glastonbury, 8vo. 1720, p. 18.
† Ib. p. 107.

* History and Antiquities of Somerset, 1791, vol. ii. p. 265.

THE BOOK TRADE IN NEW YORK.

'There is scarcely a publisher,' the New York *Life Illustrated* states; 'who has escaped from the list of failed or suspended.' We may name without discredit, the following: Harper and Brothers; J. H. Colton and Co.; H. Crosserthwaite and Co.; John P. Jewett and Co.; J. S. Redfield; Philip J. Cozzens; Miller; Orton and Co.; Richard Marsh; J. M. Emerson and Co.; Miller and Curtis; Bangs, Brother and Co.; G. P. Putnam and Co.; Sandford and Swords; H. W. Derby and Co.; Fowlers and Wells; and others, who found it impossible to meet their engagements during this unprecedented panic which so completely deranged the currency throughout the whole country.

Money for all practical purposes continues at New York without change. Some of the banks will increase their discounts upon satisfactory paper—which means the paper of parties of known wealth, and in no need of accommodation. The currency of the State steadily diminishes, and so far from an improvement the reverse is the case with the money market of the interior.

BORN AT SEA.—Is there any truth in the popularly received notion that persons 'born at sea' have a legal settlement in Stepney parish, near London?

Birkenhead, Nov. 10. A. F.

None, although persons who should be better informed seem willing to retain this 'popularly received notion.' A magistrate of the county of Chester having taken it into his head that such was the law of settlement, sent from Chester a wanderer of that description who had been 'born at sea' to Stepney for his future support. The parish early in 1813 moved the Court of King's Bench for a criminal information against him for an ignorant abuse of power; Lord Ellenborough, however, refused the rule, but directed the overseers to prosecute by indictment.

ODE IN III. NON. JUL. A.D. 1851.

Iste Servitor Dominæ Latinæ,
Qui pios cives vafer inquinaret,
Fraudibus fisus nimium strophisque
Papicolarum;

Ausus et regnum merus inquilinus,*
Partibus factis, lacerare totum;
Et, nefas! sævis triplicis tiaræ
Tradere malis;

Qui Pii Noni phaleratus arte
Coccina læna, crepidisque et ostro,
Jam diu gentem nimis insolenter
Exagitabat;

Hoc die mœrens phaleris ademtis,
Jure nudatus, positisque plumis,
Sensit, at longe meritis minora,
Verbera legum.

Cedat ex nostris fugitivus oris,
Dummodo ex nostris ubicumque mavult;
Vel petat septem Babylonis arces
Nocte sepultas.

Turgidus suras ibi tibiali
Vinctus incedat roseo, geratque
Pallium tuto, Tyriumque dura
Fronte galerum.

Turpium secum muliervirorum
Auferat turbam, monialiumque,
Ossaque, et ficto vitreas lagenas
Lacte repletas.

Pace sic tandem, bene liberati
Fæce Papana, peragamus ævum,
Et Deum ritu patrio colamus
Omnipotentem.

Gloriam Patris chorus angelorum,
Filii gentes recinant perennem;
Spiritus Sancti maneat per omne
Gloria sæc'lum!

Hawkshead, July 5, 1851. D. B. H.

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* Hispanum plurimi putant, Hibernum nonnulli, alii vero nostratem. Vide *αἶνον ἀνέκδοτον*, risum qui moveat, apud Dominum Joannem Dalrymple, Mem. tom. 1. p. 203.

LONDON COFFEE HOUSES IN SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

The following extracts from the rare weekly periodical entitled Collections for Improvement of Husbandry and Trade, conducted by John Houghton, F.R.S., in reference to the first establishment of Coffee-houses in London, will possibly interest many readers of Current Notes. The first paper quoted is No. 458, Friday, May 2, 1701.

Cornhill, Nov. 7. J. B.

The general use of Coffee by the Arabians and Turks made it a trade in great towns, and the drinkers required it stronger and stronger, till some would take whole spoonfuls of the oil, that swims on the top, as our great drinkers arrive from wine to brandy, and from thence to more burning spirits. Into publick houses where they sold this liquor the people would come by hundreds, and among them strangers would venture, where they learned the custom, and carried it to their own countries; for one Rastall, whom I knew, and within these few days I saw, went, in 1651, to Leghorn, and there found a Coffee-house.

To the same house of merchandise, where this Rastall was, came, in 1652, Mr. Daniel Edwards, a merchant from Smyrna, where coffee had been used immemorially, and brought with him a Greek servant, named Pasqua, who made his coffee, of which he drank two or three dishes at a time, twice or thrice a-day. In that year Edwards came over-land to England, and married the daughter of Alderman Hodges, who lived in Walbrook, and there with delight they drank coffee together; and this Edwards was the first I can learn who brought the use of coffee hither, except it was Dr. Harvey, the famous inventor of the circulation of the blood, who, as some say, did frequently use it. After this, Edwards set up Pasqua as a Coffee-man in a shed in the churchyard in St. Michael, Cornhill, which is now a scrivener's brave house, where, having great custom, the ale sellers petitioned the Lord Mayor against him, as being no freeman. This made Alderman Hodges join his coachman, Bowman, who was free, as Pasqua's partner, and thus Rastall found them in 1654; but Pasqua for some misdemeanour was forced to run the country, and Bowman by his trade, and a contribution of one thousand sixpences, turned the shed to a house. Bowman's apprentices were first, John Painter, then Humphrey, from whose wife I had this account.

How long this drink has been in the world is hard to say, but the English edition of Tavernier's Travels says it had been in use but twenty years, although the author says six score years. Dr. Beveridge, I am informed, has an Arabick book that says a hermite drank it, and called it bun.

This is the best history I can learn of the original of Coffee houses.

In another paper, Friday, No. 461, May 23, 1701, the writer continues:—

The use of Coffee has greatly increased the trade of Tobacco and Pipes, Earthen-dishes, Tin-wares, News-papers, Coals, Candles, Sugar, Tea, Chocolate, and what not? It's probable there are few trades in London that employ more houses and pay greater rents. Coffee-houses make all sorts of people sociable; the rich and the poor meet together, as also do the learned and unlearned. Arts, mer-

chandise, and all other knowledge are improved, for here an inquisitive man, who aims at good learning, may get more in an evening than he shall by books in a month. He may find out such Coffee-houses where men frequent who are studious in such matters as his enquiry tends to, and he may in a short space gain the pith and marrow of the other's reading and studies. I have heard a worthy friend of mine, now departed, who was of good learning, and had a very good esteem for the Universities, and they for him, say, He did think that Coffee-houses had improved useful knowledge, and he spoke in no way of slight to them. They are both best, but I must confess that he who has been well educated in the schools is the fittest man to make good use of Coffee-houses, and am fearful that too many make ill uses of them. JOHN HOUGHTON, F.R.S.

MICAT INTER OMNES!

Collectors of Rare etchings, will doubtless remember one of a 'Cat's face,' of no particular merit, but the prints are impressions taken from the cover of an old silver tankard that had acquired interest by some former possessor, and was presented by the distinguished amateur the late Mr. George Baker, laceman, of St. Paul's Churchyard, to a club of artistic friends, who originally held their meetings at the Coach and Horses, in Castle Street, Leicester Square; and later, at Mills's Coffee House, Gerrard Street, Soho. These 'Cat's head' impressions are extremely rare, and were a sort of diploma to the members of the club—a new member had one presented to him; and on the back of a print, the writer once found the following enumeration of the names and qualities of some few of the persons who constituted this club.

Giuseppe Marchi, Sir Joshua Reynolds' first pupil, he occupied the head of the table, as Lord President.

Thomas Hearne, as Vice President; both very regular in attendance.

George Baker, of St. Paul's Churchyard.

Tassaert, and

Michael Bryan, both picture dealers.

Radcliffe, husband of Mrs. R., authoress of 'Udolpho.'

Pack, an artist.

Turton [Qu. Trotter, Army-clothier, Soho Square?]

Milbourne, an artist.

Peter Coxe, auctioneer, author of 'the Social Day.'

Dickens, Comptroller of Stationary Office.

John Edmonds, Old Compton Street. [He died in 1828, at his residence, Queen's Row, Chelsea, and his extensive collection of Engravings and Drawings was sold by Christie and Manson.]

Edridge, artist, Margaret Street, Cavendish Square.

Joe Munden, Comedian.

Wm. Alexander, Draughtsman at Marlow College, 1802.

All are gone, and the noise of revelry has ceased. The thrill of joy which enhanced the merry meetings of the social brotherhood has long since been hushed in the stillness of the grave. Poor Christopher Pack! the writer knew him well. His portraits in Sir Joshua's manner were excellent, and his copies of that artist would pass for the original; still, painting had done but little towards his independence in old age. He always spoke with elate pride of his association with Sir Joshua, and was one of those who attended his funeral in St. Paul's Cathedral. In 1835, the writer visited him, in a first floor at 20, Hadlow Street, Burton Crescent; his unframed canvases hung about the room, while his wife, in the last stage of dropsy, of vast bulk, lay senselessly extended on large pillows. When she died the writer failed to notice, though often earnestly requested by Pack to visit him: we met frequently at the house of a common friend. Pack had long ceased to paint, but practised for a maintenance as a chiropodist; his appearance, in a man of his age, was at once elegant and prepossessing, in person erect, tall and thin, nose aquiline, his hair snow white was long and full, his black attire, was of the best cloth, glossy and bright; a black velvet vest, and silk stockings; and his beaver with broad brim of the first quality. He died in 1841, in the ninety-first year of his age.

THE MAN WHO STOPPED THE KING.

In an old family paper, I find an allusion to some person designated 'The man who stopped the King,' but no one I have questioned can give me the slightest information. Some reader of 'Current Notes' may possibly afford a clue, which I shall be much gratified in learning.

Shrewsbury, November 6. P.

'The man who stopped the King' was a cognomen given to Robert Sleath, toll-taker at the turn-pike gate, at Worcester, when King George the Third in the summer of 1788, visited Bishop Hurd, at Hartlebury. Sleath resolutely resisted the passing of any one of the King's retinue without payment of the toll, and was constantly afterward recognized by that appellation. He died in Birmingham, in November, 1805, when his death occasioned the following impromptu:—

On Wednesday last, old Robert Sleath,
Pass'd thro' the Turnpike gate of Death:
To him, Death would no toll abate,
Who stopped the King at Wor'ster-gate.

Dictionaries are like watches, the worst is better than none, and the best cannot be expected to go quite true. It is enough that a Dictionary is better than others of the same kind. A perfect performance of any kind is not to be expected, and certainly not a perfect Dictionary. *Dr. Johnson.*

PORTUGUESE HYMN.—Can you inform me who was the Composer of the Psalm tune known as the Portuguese Hymn, or 'Adesta Fideles'? I have somewhere seen it stated to have been the Organist of a chapel in London.

November 9. MUSICUS.

The modern version was arranged by Vincent Novello, who was formerly Organist at the Portuguese Ambassador's Chapel in London; but who was the original composer has long been an undetermined question.

MARK OF WILLIAM GREVEL OF CAMPDEN.

William Grevel, Woolmerchant, of Campden, who rebuilt Campden Church, co. Gloucester, lent to King Richard the second two hundred marks, on a promise of repayment at the ensuing Easter, 1398. He purchased in the same year, of Sir Walter Beauchamp, Knt., the manor of Millcote, and obtained a release of the same from William de Peto, Nov. 5, 1398. In 1400-1, 2 Henry IV., he entailed that estate by fine on the heirs male of Joan his then wife, sister and heir to Sir Philip Thornbury, Knt.; and for want of such issue to John and Lodowick, his sons by his first wife.

On a brass in Chipping-Campden Church, are depicted the effigies of this William Grevel and his first wife, Margaret, in the costume of civilians, under a double canopy, the central shaft of which passes between them. In the central spandrils of the canopy, this mark occurs; and between the finials of the canopies and their flanking pinnacles, are four shields, each charged with these arms—Sable, on a cross engrailed Or, five pellets within a bordure engrailed of the second: a mullet of the second in the dexter quarter, for difference. The whole has on the verge the following inscription —

Hic jacet Wilelmus Grevel de Campdene quondam Civis London̄ et flos m'cator' lanar' tocius Anglie qui obiit primo die mens' Octobris An° dnī Millm̄o cccc°. primo +Hic jacet Mariona uxor predicti Wilelmi que obiit Decimo die mensis Septembris Anno dnī Millm̄o ccc° lxxx° vi°. quor' aiābus . . . .

Male issue by his second wife Joan failing, he was succeeded in his estates by his eldest son John, and as an instance of the change in coat armour common at this period, it is deserving of note, that this John Grevel bore for his arms—Sable, on a cross engrailed within a bordure Or, ten annulets of the first; in the dexter quarter, a mullet of the second. He was succeeded by his son John, who bore the arms without either annulets or pellets, but retaining the mullet. The arms of the Grevilles as now borne by them, are with the pellets, but without the mullet.

Lee Road, Blackheath, Nov. 2. J. J. HOWARD.

LORD HIGH STEWARD.—Can any correspondent of Current Notes inform me who was the author or editor of a now very scarce volume, entitled An Historical Dissertation on the Origin, Antiquity, and Functions of the Lord High Steward of England, with Remarks on the antient and modern Modes of trying Peers. Printed 1776, 8vo. pp. 156?

Warwick, Nov. 10. J. F.

The author was the Rev. S. N. Russell, assisted by his brother, F. Russell.

REMARKABLE EPITAPHS.

In the Abbey-churchyard, Arbroath, Scotland, is the following —

Here lyes Grisell West, spous to John Carnegie, doctor of the Gramer Schooll of Aberbrothock, who departed this life the 27 of Aprill, and of her age 37; haueing brought forth seuen children, four [three ?] of them [died] before her, to witt, Catherine, Thomas and Catherine Carnegies, 1699.

Here lyes a wife was chast, a mother blest,
A modest woman, all these in on[e] chest;
Sarah unto her mate, Mary to God,
Martha to men, whilst here she had abode.

Near the door of the church, in Kew-churchyard, Surrey.

Here lyeth the Bodys of Robert and Ann Plaistow, both of Tyso, near Edgehill in Warwickshire, who died Aug. the 28, 1728.

At Tyso they were born and bred,
And in the same good lives they led,
Untill they came to marrige state,
Which was to them most fortunate.
Near sixty years of mortal life,
They were a happy man and wife;
And being so by nature ty'd:
When one fell sick, the other dy'd;
And both together laid in dust
To wait the rising of the just.
They had six children born and bred,
And five before them being dead,
Their only then surviving son
Hath caus'd this stone for to be done.

In the same place, on William Rowland, who died July 8, 1849, aged 64.

Here rests a man whose loss all greive,
For 'twas his pride relief to give
To stern oppressions wrong, to help the right;
To serve a friend with ardour and delight.
Such Rowland was, for none e'er knew
A Man more just, a Friend more true.

In Dunfermline churchyard, in Fifeshire, is a stone inscribed — Here lyes the Corps of Andrew Robertson, present Deacon of the Weavers in this Burgh, who died 13 July, 1745, aged 62.

On another stone, at Kingsbarns in the same shire, is the following, dated 1745.

Lo David Davidson here doth lye,
With Beatrix Walker his wife hard by.
Contentment [blest them] all their life
Free from the carking cares and strife.

At Rattray, in Perthshire, a stone erected by Peter Mitchell in 1760, at once records and admonishes:

Here lays my Father, and our Mother,
My wife, my son, and my two brothers;
As for the rest, they are out of deat
Mind all to die, or it be too late.

Brechin, Nov. 5. A. J.

WILLIS'S CURRENT NOTES.

No. LXXXIV.] "Takes note of what is done —
By note, to give and to receive."—SHAKESPEARE. [DECEMBER, 1857.

SAINTS DAYS OF THE ENGLISH CALENDAR.

The principle upon which certain festivals of devotion still retained in the calendar prefixed to the Common Prayer, and usually printed in italics, were selected for retention, has not been explained. Many of them evidently indicate names which have been of old peculiarly honoured in the Church of England: St. Alban, the proto-martyr of Britain; Augustine, the apostle of the English race; Venerable Bede, and King Edward the Confessor, the early and acknowledged patron of England, but in the age of pseudo-chivalry, supplanted by the legendary St. George. Others doubtless were chosen for their high station in the earlier ages of the Church, as St. Ambrose, St. Augustine, St. Martin, and St. Cyprian; and others from their local celebrity.

Poor Robin's Almanack presents much that is worthy of consideration. The compiler or editor shews that the tradition respecting the appropriation of the days to particular Saints, was considered by the common people as eminently Protestant; that is to say, as a part and parcel of the Church of England, and that an Almanack without saints, for every day was nought. By the statute of 1552, 5 and 6 of King Edward the Sixth, cap. 3, the Secular power advanced in aid of the church. This Act commands the observance of all our present liturgical festivals, and their non-observance was in no way to be considered as of discretion only, but as an absolute breach of the law of the land. The peculiar sports and observances which early custom and usage had attached to peculiar days—the dancing around the maypole on the festival of St. Philip and St. James; the bonfires on the feast of the Baptist, and others of similar application, it is not required to speak, but the main feature, anterior to the Reformation, was the cessation of work and labour upon such festival days; the people had thus a time provided 'to rejoice before the Lord,' and the exceptions as defined by the said Act show that such was still the spirit of the age; and that those who chose to work were merely *permitted* to labour.

A third class are Saints, who are simply commemorated, and it is a fact, hitherto almost unnoticed, that these Saints' days now considered as the distinctive badges of Romanism continued to retain their appropriated stations in our popular Protestant English Almanack until the alteration of the style in 1752, when they were discontinued. By what authority this change was effected, was not stated, but, possibly the books of the Stationers' Company might afford some data to solve this mystery.

PROPOSED JOHNSONIAN MUSEUM.

The recent demolition consequent upon their decayed condition, of the buildings on the west-side of Inner Temple Lane, involved the house, No. 1, more particularly memorable from the first floor and the attics, having from 1759 to 1765 been the residence of the great lexicographer and moralist Dr. Johnson. The removal occurring at a time when the Directors of the Crystal Palace are fully sensible of the general requirement on the part of the public for novelties of an instructive and interesting character, they have become possessed at an almost nominal cost, of the wainscoting and fittings of Dr. Johnson's chambers, with a view to reconstruct the whole contiguous to the Crystal Palace, and by arranging on the panels of the rooms, four in all, the best engraved portraits of Dr. Johnson, and of those eminent persons who are known to have frequently visited him; by framing choice autograph letters, and by depositing in the rooms on their reconstruction, every procurable relique relating to him, and his contemporaries, they aim at establishing an acknowledged record of the past, in what would thus be justly designated the JOHNSONIAN MUSEUM. The original panelling, the doors and windows the same, as in Dr. Johnson's time, now nearly a century since, will be re-erected, and will thus form a veritable restoration of those chambers, which were formerly so long occupied by him, and repeopled as it were by authentic portraits of men celebrated as the Doctor's associates, men whose existence is still borne in the generally cherished recollections of their countrymen.

According to the suggestions now entertained, the public will probably proceed from or near to the present picture gallery at the north end of the Palace, into the JOHNSONIAN MUSEUM; the flooring of both being on a level, and the celebrated Staircase presented by the Benchers of the Inner Temple will be available for the immediate descent thence to the grounds of the Palace.

It has also been proposed to deposit in these chambers, the original editions of all Dr. Johnson's published works; the various biographies of him which have from time to time appeared, and copies of the publications in reference to him, or his writings. This suggestion if completely achieved will institute a valuable assemblage, and be replete with the highest literary interest.

Among other embellishments will doubtless be displayed busts of Dr. Johnson and others, after Nollekens, Bacon, and other sculptors. It may also be hoped that the possessors of the painted portraits of Dr. Johnson and his contemporaries, by Reynolds and other eminent

painters, may grant the loan of these productions which have become doubly important from their associations and their universally applauded artistic merit; and when their return to the respective owners, becomes inevitable, their places will it is presumed be supplied by photographs from the originals, upon the principles of the most recent discoveries by prominently distinguished practitioners in that art.

On the whole it cannot be doubted that much of a beneficial and practical character will arise in the minds of many persons on inspecting the Johnsonian Chambers and their contents. Of Johnson's other early residences in the metropolis, we know but little, from the circumstance that Dr. Johnson's outset in life as a literary man, was one hopeless course of incessant and beggarly requited toil, and of bodily as well as mental wretchedness; hence his joyous resort to the social intercourse he found at Taverns, for his house presented but few comforts either to himself, or his wife 'poor dear Tetty.' He wrote his highly-praised poem of 'London,' in 1738, in the garret of a house in Exeter Street, behind Exeter Change in the Strand, then tenanted by a stay-maker named Norris. In the same year he was lodging at No. 6, Castle Street, in the neighbourhood of Oxford Market, but the house has since been rebuilt. Onward for some years, Johnson and his wife shifted from lodging to lodging, many of them doubtless barely furnished and miserable in their accommodation, in courts in the vicinity of the Strand, Boswell Court, Bow Street, Holborn and Fetter Lane; but in 1747, having contracted with the booksellers for the compilation of an English Dictionary, Johnson to be near to Strahan, his printer, began to occupy the house, No. 17, Gough Square, and there, while busied in his lexicographical researches and composition, he wrote his admirable essays entitled 'The Rambler,' and 'The Idler'; but in this house, his wife died early in 1752, leaving him immerged in mental despondency and poverty. The stipend he drew from the booksellers while labouring on the Dictionary, finished late in 1754, but not published till May in the following year, is shewn to have been inadequate to his requirements; he was ever in need, and on balancing the accounts between the employers and the employed, Johnson was found to have considerably overdrawn the 1500*l.*, which had been agreed on. His literary exertions were incompetent to provide sufficiently for the passing day, and there are still evidences of his applications for loans to relieve him from arrest. In his mother's last illness, when nearly ninety years old, and dependent on him for subsistence; pennyless and in grief, impelled by sheer want, in the hope of opportunely obtaining money from the sale of his manuscript, he wrote in an incredibly short space of time, his world wide popular Eastern Tale, 'Rasselas,' a production that will only be forgotten when the English language shall cease to be remembered; he sold the manuscript to Johnston, the bookseller, for 100*l.*, but ere this was effected, his mother had died, he attended her funeral at Lichfield, and discharged all claims on her account. On his return to London in Jan. 1759, he relinquished housekeeping, quitted Gough Square, and endeavoured to locate himself either in Staple or Gray's Inn, but in March in that year he became a resident in Inner Temple Lane. In these chambers, Murphy in May 1762 deputed by Alexander Wedderburne, the future Lord Loughborough, to apprise Johnson of the proffered annuity from the King, of 300*l.*, for Literary merit; found him within these panelled walls, in a home, which he emphatically states was 'the abode of wretchedness;' such indeed is too often the character of the dwelling of the potent spirit whose thrilling eloquence, the emanation of his jaded brain overcharged almost to madness, directs or excites myriads of his fellow countrymen, either too heedless, or too idle to think for themselves. Johnson momentarily hesitated to receive this pension, but on the following day at the Mitre Tavern, in Fleet Street, accepted it without reservation, still, his future political conduct marked the tone of its influence on him. Thus, within these walls about to be rendered familiar to, and recognizable by thousands, Johnson's transition from beggary to comparative affluence took place, and this fact will possibly induce the reflective consideration of many persons who may not idly, or without a purpose visit the JOHNSONIAN MUSEUM.

ARTIFICIAL DIAMONDS.

Another progressive step towards the possibility of creating Diamonds by a chymical progress has been realised in the fact that Sapphires have been so produced. M. Gaudin has communicated to the Academy of Sciences, Paris, a process for obtaining alumina (the clay which yields the new metal called aluminum) in transparent crystals, which therefore present the same chymical composition as the natural stone known under the name of Sapphire. To obtain them, he lines a common crucible with a coating of lamp-black, and introduces into it equal proportions of alum and sulphate of potash reduced to a powder and calcined. He then exposes it for fifteen minutes to the fire of a common forge. The crucible is then allowed to cool, and on breaking it the surface of the lamp-black coating is found covered with numerous brilliant points composed of sulphuret of potassium, enveloping the crystals of alumina obtained, or, in other words, real sapphires or corundum. The size of the crystals is large in proportion to the mass operated upon; those obtained by M. Gaudin are about a millimetre, or 3-100ths of an inch, in diameter, and half a millimetre in height. They are so hard that they have been found to be preferable to rubies for the purposes of watch making. It is thus, that Chymistry by pursuing the recognised course of natural causes will in its operation achieve similar results and produce the diamond.

THE BIRTH OF THE LILIES.

Translated from the Latin, Current Notes, p. 78.

Thro' Asia's cities far and wide,
A rumour sped with rapid stride,
Thro' Europe's breadth from shore to shore,
That Holy Mary was no more!

Forthwith where'er this rumour spread,
The Saints by pious ardour led,
Forsake their homes, with anxious breast,
To find where Mary's ashes rest.

Crowd after crowd from every land,
With scrip on shoulder, staff in hand,
All urge, impatient of delay,
With naked feet their devious way.

Some to Jerusalem repair,
And round the Psalmist's city, where
The Virgin Mother had been said
Of late to dwell in humble shed.

Some to Achaia's regions speed,
And some to Ephesus proceed,
And search about in ev'ry place,
Where'er was seen her blessed face.

Yet of her corpse, or dust, no trace
Is seen in any earthly place;
Of her no monument is found,
No relic all the world around.

Now wearied of the tiresome road,
All sad reseek their own abode,
And wait with pious resignation,
For future, heavenly revelation!

At length from Palestine's blest shore,
The grateful news is wafted o'er,
'On spicy breezes toward the West,'*
To cheer each long expectant breast.

That ere the hour of death, 'tis said,
The Twelve were summon'd to her bed;
Who buried, as the Church ordains,
With solemn rites, her cold remains.

That when the sun thro' orient skies
On the third morn was seen to rise,
The grave was void, and Mary flown
Substantial to the Saviour's throne!

How then to the astonished sight
A growth of Lilies, heavenly white,
In dense profusion sprung to birth,
'Where her pure body touched the earth!'*

How day and night the Angelic throng
Were heard, with most melodious song,
To celebrate on harps unseen
'The glories of their risen Queen!'*

Hence purer than the purest snows,
The white, the modest Lily rose,
Then first† unveil'd to mortal view,
If Saint Neander's Tale be true?

Hawkshead, Dec. 9. D. B. H.

* See Neander's Lecture on the 'Assumption.'
† But see Cantica Canticorum, II. 1, 2.

VISCOUNT DUNDEE AND HIS DEFAMERS.

Will that time ever arrive when history shall be written irrespective of political bias? when it will not be incumbent on a Tory to laud Mary of Scotland, and her grandson, Charles the First; to abuse the Protector, and to sneer at William of Nassau. Or, for a Whig to represent Lord William Russell as guiltless of treason; Algernon Sydney as the type of political purity; and Hampden as the disinterested opponent of kingly power.

At present, the system of wholesale praise, and wholesale vituperation is exceedingly offensive. Can any thing be more sickening than the perpetual laudation of Queen Mary, by Miss Strickland, or the attack uncalled for of Lord Macaulay upon Dundee? In the latter case, the noble baron in his anxiety to depreciate his victim, represented him in the first edition of his History, as Captain of the Town-guard of Edinburgh; and in this capacity superintending the progress of the unfortunate Argyle in his melancholy journey from Holyrood to the Castle. The idea of 'the fiercest' of the race of Grahame holding the position of Captain of the Town 'rats,' as they were called in common parlance, was too ludicrous not to excite at the time, the smile even of the sober Scotsman, and the new addition to the honours of the 'bloody Clavers' was received with shouts of laughter on the northern side of the Tweed.

Sir Walter Scott, has, we suspect, come nearest the real character in the picture he has given of Dundee, in Old Mortality; although we doubt much the correctness of the assumptions in his Notes derived from the allegations of Woodrow, many of whose statements are as regards him absolutely false. Thus the shooting of Brown, the Christian carrier, by the hand of Clavers is a fiction: this man was shot by six of the soldiers, not upon his refusal to take the oaths as ordered by the Privy Council; but because, in addition to his refusal, he positively declared he would not acknowledge the king, and had in his possession bullets and arms. The original letters on the subject from Clavers have been recently discovered, and will in due time be given to the public by the accomplished biographer of Montrose, who is engaged on a life of the much abused Viscount. Suffice it to say, that Clavers did what he was bound to have done, as a military officer, viz., obey the orders given to him. In the instance of Brown, he endeavoured to save him, but the unfortunate man preferred martyrdom.

In looking over a large volume of miscellaneous manuscripts put together in the oddest manner many years since by those having the [mis]management of the Library of the Faculty of Advocates, Edinburgh; the following Verses on the death of the subject of these observations were discovered, and transcribed as indicating that the opinions propagated by Woodrow and Walker, and adopted by Lord Macaulay, were not at least universally received, and that even in the lower orders of society individuals might be found who did admire the elegant, but uncompromising and determined Cavalier.

ANE EPITAPH UPON THE VISCOUNT OF DUNDEE,

compoe'd be an ignorant Tailzeor.

Fools and Phanaticks feast you now and sing
What God and good men grieve, you joy doth bring.

Rejoice, rejoice, the noble hero's dead,
Quhoes presence was to yow, MEDUSA'S head.

The bold undaunted Lord quhoes verie name
Made Traitours pale, lives only now by fame.

Unmatch'd Dundee in honor's bed hath dyed:
His name and Cuntries glorie, boast, and pryde.

Dy'd in the best of causes, but too soone
A martire for the Mytre and the Croune.

No vulgar error, nor a nick-nam'd law
His loyal resolutiones could o'erawe.

Nor plausible subtilities, nor all
The new distinctions whereupon men fall,

To reconcile their conscience, and their Cryme;
Nor hope, nor fear, could make him serve the tyme,

Nor stain his noble soul with such pollutione
As bears the impress of this revolution.

No, no, he walk'd in vertue's straitest road,
And bid the event be, what best pleased God.

Though Truth grew Treason, he disowned it not,
Though loyall mens rewards the Traitors got.

And though the punishment to rebells due,
Be all that honest men can look for now,

Yet amidst these distractions firm he stood,
And what he said, he sealed it with his blood.

But oh! my quill's too weak, Death, Blood and Wounds.
And Traytors groans his Elegie shall sound.

His Epitaph be Mars shall written be,
And for his death whole hecatombs shall die.

The Epitaph is included among a great many other poems, if they are entitled to that designation, said to be the 'Mass of Davidson's Verses,' but who this individual was — is not known. The Taylor's versification is not very harmonious, nevertheless some of the lines are sufficiently vigorous, and as the production of the ninth part of a man, the whole merits commendation.

In the same Collection occur the following lines on the death of King William. If they are the composition of Davidson, we incline to think the Tailor the better poet.

Cromwell did laugh to see King William come
Tumbling in haste down from the English throne,
He straight raise up with a great pane and grace
In hell to him to yield the hottest place.

Great Sir! he says, ye have me far outdone,
For ye had still the advantage as a sone:
In all things else a lyk it was our cause,
Pretending still religione and the laws.

But, who is your Successor? added he.
George; quoth King William. Then I plainlie see,
Like to my owne son Richard, he will be.

25, Royal Circus, Edinburgh. J. M.

INEDITED LETTER OF BISHOP WARBURTON.

The following, believed to have been addressed to Thomas Newton, bishop of Bristol, has no superscription.

Prior Park, Feb. 20, 1768.

My dear Lord, I am much obliged to you for your last kind letter of the 13th. I think you so right as to the county sum, that it shall be 500*l* instead of 400*l*, which I shall take care shall bring 4 per cent. The course proposed is to be three or four sermons a year for four years; and the course to be printed.

You are likely to have a very mad Episcopal seat this spring, but I suppose, the rage of it, will be over before you will venture down. If you give us, this Session, a new bill against bribery and corruption, it will vastly increase contested Elections. For every penal act has some little attention paid to it, for the first three or four months. The Inhabitants of Bath expect a large harvest this next Spring Season, when full stomachs and empty pockets will bring hither the gentry of England, who cannot afford to pass the summer at their own seats, nor pass it any where without the Waters.

My dear Lord,
Ever most affectionately and faithfully yours,
W. GLOUCESTER.

CIVIC CHAPLETS OR GARLANDS.

Among the ordinances made by the Grocers' Company, August 20, 1376, it was—'Ordained, That all the Company of this Mystery, shall assemble once in every year, in the month of May, and dine together, which dinner shall be ordered and provided by the Two Masters for the time being, and after dinner, or, in the quaint wording of the original, 'when the mangerie was ended' the Wardens were to 'come wyth garlondes on ther hedes,' and the Company were to choose for their three Wardens for the year following those 'upon whom the forseid garlondes shallen bee sett.'*

The election Ceremonies in all the Companies usually took place after the feast, differing in some minor particulars, but all having reference to one usage — that of crowning with chaplets and garlands the newly elected principals. To the wardens thus chosen, was to be delivered all money, papers and other matters which belonged to the fraternity, under a penalty of 10*l*. If the Masters thought fit to choose one of their company, though not then present, the chaplet or garland was to be sent by the beadle to his house, and if in town, he was to accept the office without any refusal: if absent, he was to accept it on his return. Refusal to serve was followed by fine or expulsion. In the Wardens accounts of the Grocers' Company, 1401, the sum of xx*d*. is debited for the 'ij chapellettes pour couronner les nouvels mestres,' and xvjs. for refreshment, which seems to have been provided for this election—'en payn, vyn, cuoystre' blaundrett et fromage.' When these ceremonies had terminated, and the loving cup had passed round, the minstrels and players began their diversions, and with their disport the entertainment ended.

* Heath's History of the Grocers' Company, Privately Printed, 1854, 8vo. p. 56.

In the Carpenters' Company, the custom of crowning the new Master and the Wardens is yet observed, and the crowns or garlands used for the purpose are the same which were in the possession of the company nearly three centuries since. The Master's crown is a species of cap of crimson silk velvet, embroidered with gold and silver lace, it bears the date 1561, as also the initials and merchant's mark of John Tryll, Master of the Company, also the armorial insignia of the City of London, and the Carpenters' Company.

The crowns of the Three Wardens bear the same date, and are very similar, bearing the initials of John Ansell, with his mark; Wolstone Wynd, and Thomas Pecoke.* Later, the records of the Company under June 6, 1738, detail more particularly the proceedings at these elections:

Directions for the Election of Master and Wardens of the Worshipful Company of Carpenters.

Firstly, The old Master and Wardens to walk once round the Hall with the Musick and Cupbearers.

From the old Master and Wardens to Crown the new Master and Wardens, and to drink to each other.

Then the new Master and Wardens to walk once round the Hall, with the Musick and Cupbearers as before.

N.B.—To call the four Junior Livery-men to be Cupbearers.

The ceremony of crowning the Prime Warden and his Associates on their accession to office is still observed by the Fishmongers' Company.

Sir William Stone, Alderman of London, who was Mercer to the Queen, Anne of Denmark, and resided in Cheapside;† presented in 1606 to his Company the Clothworkers, four garlands of purple velvet, with the scutcheons of the company's arms on each richly embroidered with gold and silver twine, lined with crimson satin; and a fair case to keep the garlands in, for the use of the Wardens of the Yeomanry. The Master's chaplet is here represented, drawn from the original.

Another object of much interest to the members of the Clothworkers' Company is the silver cup presented to them by Philip Chetwynd, Renter Warden, 1654-5. The side here shewn depicts his family coat and initials; on the opposite side, are the arms of the Clothworkers' Company, inscribed above—'Ex Debito,' and under the arms, the motto — 'Tria sunt Omnia.'

The Books of the Barbers' Company, under the date Jan. 20, 1629, have the following entry, relative to the garlands which are still in their possession —

It is ordered, that there shall be made four Garlands of silver enamelled, garnished and sett forth after the neatest manner, according to the direction of the present Governors, for the choice of New Masters, at the charge of the House.

The garlands worn by the Master and Wardens of the Ironmongers' Company on their entering upon office, consisted of a fillet of velvet about three inches wide, padded and lined with silk, and ornamented with the arms and crest of the Company engraved on small silver or iron plates, and enamelled in their proper tinctures. A set of such garlands, one of crimson, and the other two of green velvet, evidently of considerable antiquity, is still in the possession of the Ironmongers' Company, but the custom of placing them on the heads of the newly elected Master and Wardens has long been discontinued *

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. Howard.

* History of the Carpenters' Company, by E. B. Jupp, Clerk of the Company, 1848, 8vo. pp, 211, 212.

† Sir William Stone, Knt., Citizen and Clothworker, was the son of Reginald Stone, Citizen and Fishmonger. He was honoured with knighthood June 16, 1604, by King James the First, being then on a visit to Michael Hicks, Esq., at his manor of Ruckholts, Leyton, Essex. Three months after King James's visit to Clothworkers' Hall, Sir William being then Master of the Company, died Sept. 14, 1607, and was buried on the following day in the church of St. Mary Magdalen, Milk Street, here the singular inscription to his memory, is noticed in Maitland's London, vol. ii., p. 1140. His arms were, Or, on a pale azure. Three escalops of the first. Crest, on a wreath of the colours, a Sea-horse Or, crined Gules, tail proper, holding between his fore-feet, an escalop of the first.

Probate to his will was granted by the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Sept. 17, 1607, to Lady Barbara Stone his widow and sole executrix. He died possessed, inter alia, of certain freehold premises, No. 11, Old Fish Street, formerly the Feathers Tavern, which is now vested in Mr. Samuel Gregory, a member of the Clothworkers' Company.

* History of the Ironmongers' Company, by John Nicholl, F.S.A. Privately Printed, p. 88. A woodcut is there inserted of one of these Garlands.

CORRELATIVE VERSES.

The Distich 'Pastor, arator, eques,' etc., Current Notes, p. 82, is attributed to Pentadius. Also the following —

De grege pasto, rure sato, duce nempe subacto
Neo lac, nec segetes, nec spolia ulla tuli.

See Burmann's Anthologia Veterum Latinorum Poetarum, tom. I., p. 403. The authors of the three which follow, are not known, to me at least.

In Statuam Regis.

Rex, Vates, Lyricen, Mavortis, Apollinis, Orphei,
Gesto, cano, tango, sceptra, poëma, lyram.

Mors Trium.

Anguis, aper, juvenis, pereunt si, vulnere morsu:
Hic premit, ille gemit, sibilat hic moriens.

In Petri Bembi mortem.

Adria, Castalides, Ænotria, Tuscia, Bembus,
Nobilis, unanimes, florida, culta, probus,
Undique, conjunctim, subito, velociter, eheu!
Ablue, complete,* prome, profunde, obiit,
Littora, Parnassum, lamenta, fluenta, senectam,
Humida, laurigerum, grandia, larga, gravem,
Fluctibus, elogio, singultu, lumine, leto.
Luctisonis, mœsto, triste,† gemente, hilari.

In this epigram, consisting of eight lines, and each line of five words, the construction proceeds downwards, Adria nobilis, undique ablue littora humida fluctibus luctisonis. Castalides, unanimes, etc. See Vaslet's Ars Metrica, pp. 86, 87.

Citerii Sidonii Syracusani de Tribus Pastoribus.

Almo, Theon, Thyrsis, orti sub monte Pelori,
Semine disparili, Laurente, Lacone, Sabino.
Vite Sabine, Lacon sulco, sue cognite Laurens.
Thyrsis oves, vitulos Theon egerat, Almo capellas.
Almo puer, pubesque Theon, at Thyrsis ephebus.
Canna Almo, Thyrsis stipula, Theon ore melodus.
Nais amat Thyrsin, Glauce Almona, Nisa Theonem.
Nisa rosas, Glauce violas dat, lilia Nais.

See similar to this, two other epigrams in Burmann's Anthol. Veter. Latin. Poetarum, tom. I., pp. 445, 446.

H.

SIR JOHN SPENCER'S MERCHANT'S MARK.

Sir John Spencer, knt., Citizen and Clothworker, was the son of Richard Spencer, of Waldingfield, Suffolk; and ancestor of the ennobled family of Northampton. His Town residence was Crosby Place, now Crosby Hall, Bishopsgate; and he held the manor of Canonbury which was alienated to him in 1570, by Thomas Lord Wentworth. Canonbury is still the property of the Marquis of Northampton. He was in 1583 elected Alderman of Bridge Ward without; served sheriff 1583-4; and on being elected Alderman of Bassishaw in 1594, was Mayor in 1594-5. The arms of Sir John Spencer—Argent, two bars gemelles, between three eagles displayed sable. Crest, on a wreath of the colours, an eagle volant proper; are in Gray's Inn Hall, inscribed 'Johannes Spencer Miles, Prætor London.'

The year of his mayoralty was one of great scarcity, and in order to provide against the dearth in the City, he by precept required several of the companies to import from foreign parts a certain quantity of corn, and to store the same in the City granary, in the Bridge House. See his autograph letter, addressed to the Lord Treasurer Burleigh, dated Dec. 23, 1594, Lansdowne MS. 76, fol. 92.

In the following year, for the better ensuring the safety of the City, he applied by letter to the Lords of the Privy Council, referring to their consideration the propriety of closing up some five or six of the postern doors made in the City Walls; and at the same time protested against the interference of the Queen in the appointment of the Recorder of London. His letter on this occasion addressed to the Lord High Treasurer and dated July 23, 1595, is extant in Lansdowne MS. 116, fol. 8.

Sir John Spencer in 1599 appears to have begun to decorate at considerable cost his mansion at Canonbury. An elaborately carved oak chimney-piece, yet remains, consisting of six figures, representing Prudence, Temperance, Justice, Faith, Charity and Hope; also the arms of the City of London, the Clothworker's company, the Spencer coat, and his merchant's mark, dated 1601, as here represented. The whole supported by caryatides of an elegant form. The arms of the Spencer family are also in other parts of the building, No. 7, Canonbury Place, now occupied as a Ladies' boarding school.

He died intestate at an advanced age, and was buried in St. Helen's Church, Bishopsgate. In 1808, his remains were discovered at the east end of the south aisle, wrapped in lead, shaped to the form of his body, and on the breast, inscribed — Here lyeth ye Body of Sir John Spencer Knight, Lord Mayor of London, 1593; whoe dyed ye 3 of March, 1609.

Administration of his estate was granted in 1612 by the Prerogative Court of Canterbury to Lord Compton.

Near the vestry in St. Helen's Church a monument was raised by the heir, and originally coloured; but has now a coat of white paint. The late Marquis of Northampton expressed an intention of having it restored, and went with that purpose to view it a short time before his death; he was further furnished with an estimate of the expense, and I lent him drawings of the monument, and of the leaden coffin.

Islington, Dec. 8. S. GREGORY.

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* The final vowel in 'complete' is lengthened by the cæsura, not by the following consonants.

† The correct ablative is tristi.

ODE ON JULY 5, 1851.

Translated from the Latin, Current Notes, p. 86.

That slave who owns with mind and soul
The Scarlet Lady's fell control,
Who would pollute with efforts vile,
The pious of this favoured Isle —
Too confident—but Heaven prevailed,
His Popish frauds and jugglings failed.

He, too — what treason to the Throne!
(A sojourner of birth unknown,)
Had dared with most audacious hand
To map and parcel out the land,
And cast us to that mitred power,
That's ever prowling to devour.

Who by the Romish Pontiff dressed
In trappings, at his own request,
Of purple pall and stockings too,
And sandals of the same bright hue,
Had roused by insult long and dire
The nation's just, indignant ire.

This day condemned, and doomed to mourn
The trappings from his shoulders torn,
Deposed, unfrocked, and naked left,
Like jackdaw of his plumes bereft,
Has felt, but should have felt again
The legal lash with tenfold pain!

Far from our shores, expelled by force,
An outcast let him bend his course,
And if from ours, beyond the seas
To any other shores that please;
Or Seven-hilled Rome, where broods all round
Darkness eternal and profound!

There let his ample calves be seen
Encased in silk of purple sheen;
There, pompous, let him strut and wear
His pall without restraint, and bear
With brazen front, on empty head,
His Tom-fool hat of Tyrian red!

Be these — the crew that shun the light,
The —— companions of his flight,
(That —— herd who could endure?)
———— Monks and Nuns ——— *
And dead men's bones, and phials filled
With damning falsehoods thrice-distilled!

And thus by providential meed
At length from Rome's corruptions freed;
May we a happy nation prove,
For ages dwell in peace and love,
And worship in our country's rite,
The God of majesty and might.

As angels sing in heavenly choir
The glory of the Almighty Sire;
Let nations, too, their voices raise
To chant the Son's eternal praise.
Let all thro' endless time proclaim
The ever glorious Triune name!

Hawkshead. D. B. H.

* This verse is so difficult to be translated, that I leave it to be completed by others, rather than betray greater ignorance by attempting it.

SIR JOHN MILBOURNE'S MERCHANT'S MARK.

Sir John Milbourne, Citizen and Draper, son of John Milbourne, of Long Melford, Suffolk; sheriff in 1511, purchased ground of the Crouched or Crutched Friars, in order to found thirteen alms-houses for decayed Drapers, and appears to have been in consequence involved in several disputes with that fraternity.* He was Mayor in 1521; died in 1535, and was buried in the church of the Crutched Friars on April 5, in that year; but was subsequently disinterred, and his body deposited in the church of St. Edmund the King, Lombard Street.

Over the archway leading to the Alms-houses, at the north-end of Cooper's Row, Trinity Square, was this inscription:

Ad laudem Dei et gloriose Virginis Marie, hoc opus erexit Dominus Johannes Milbourn, Miles et Alderman hujus civitatis A D. 1535.

His merchant's mark is cut on stone, and let into the wall. Over the archway is sculptured, the Assumption of the Virgin, supported by six Angels; and at either corner are four shields of arms, viz., On the dexter side of the sculpture, are firstly —Sable, on a bend between two leopards heads or, three crosses pattée sable; on a chief argent as many escallops of the field. Arms of Milbourne. Secondly, Azure, three clouds proper, radiated in base or, each surmounted with a triple crown or caps gules. Arms of Drapers' Company.

On the sinister side of the sculpture, are firstly, a lozenge shaped shield, charged with . . . a chevron, between three birds? Secondly, Barry nebulée of six, argent and azure, on a chief gules, a lion passant gardant or. Arms of Merchant of the Staple of Calais.

Underneath the sculpture is now this inscription:

This Edifice was erected by Sir John Milbourne, knt., and Alderman of this City, A.D. 1535.

Lee Road, Blackheath. J. J. HOWARD.

DELPHIN AND VARIORUM CLASSICS.

Valpy's great and splendid edition, originally published at 156*l.* may now be obtained for about 25*l.*, one sixth of its original cost, but its value is not generally known, or not a copy would remain for sale. Valpy's edition embodies a correct reprint of the best Text of each author, and supplies a vast number of various and important readings under the Text, collected from every available source. The Horace and Plautus contain the various readings of seven manuscripts in the British Museum. Numerous errors have been corrected in the Delphin and Variorum Notes, the latter taken from the best editions. The Notitia Literaria of

* See Herbert's History of the Livery Companies, 1837, vol. I. pp. 413-414.

the Bipont edition was also adopted, and continued to the year 1832, by the late George Dyer. This alone is a most valuable addition. Complete Indexes to book, chapter, and verse, are appended to each author. The Index to Pliny's Natural History, occupying two octavo volumes, is that of Hardouin; the references of which had been to page and line of the folio edition, but were converted to book and chapter, by Dr. Hickie, of Hawkshead, who also edited the following authors — Catullus, Tibullus, Cicero, Horatius, Martialis, Panegyrici Veteres, Plautus, Plinius Senior, Prudentius, Quintus Curtius, Statius, Terentius, and Valerius Maximus, comprising about fifty volumes. Many of the authors were sold separately, but copies of the Virgil, Horace and Cicero, are of very rare occurrence.

The most rare editions were unflinchingly procured for republication, and the cost in several instances was considerable. The Delphin Statius, at the La Valliere sale, sold for 30*l.*, Mr. Heathcote's for 39*l.*; and at a more recent sale for 60*l.*

Are these not sufficient claims for the respect of the literary world, and for placing it in the public libraries of all civilized nations?

DECUS ET TUTAMEN.

The words Decus et Tutamen are from Virgil's Æneis, V. 262. 'Decus et Tutamen Regni,' was first applied to Queen Elizabeth.

As an inscription it first appears on the edge of the Crowns of Charles the Second, struck in 1662-3: and was thus placed to prevent the clipping of the coin without detection. Evelyn states that having observed these words in a vignette in the Cardinal de Richelieu's Greek Testament, he suggested it to the master of the Mint, by whom it was happily adopted to intimate that it was at once an ornament and a protection to the coin.

A Winchester boy who from the general eccentricity of his manners, and the fact of his wearing a wig, was long the object of much ridicule in the school, immortalised himself on the Master's proposing as the Thesis—Decus et Tutamen; by almost immediately stepping forward, and after taking off his wig, and placing it on his hand, said —

Hæc coma quam cernis, varios mihi suppetit usus.

Then turning it inside out, and forming it into a night cap, he added —

Tutamen capiti nocte,

Again turning it, in its wonted form, and replacing it upon his head, he finished the line,

—— dieque decus.

St. Alban's Parsonage, Gateshead, Dec. 8. E. H. A.

Without Chronology, History is but an heap of tales.—*Fuller.*

WICKLIFFE.—An early transcript of the version of the New Testament by this 'Morning Star of the Reformation,' in two small volumes, in Dean Conybeare's library, sold on the 12th inst., for 145*l.*

TASTE. It is observable, that the further people advance in elegance, the less they value splendour: distinction being at last the positive thing which mortals elevated above competency naturally desire. Necessity must we know be first supplied; convenience then requires to be contented, but so soon as men can find means after that period to make themselves eminent for Taste, they learn to despise those paltry distinctions which riches alone can bestow. *Mrs. Piozzi.*

UWINS' SCENERY OF THE BAY OF NAPLES.

In a previous number of Current Notes, you inserted an interesting letter of the late THOMAS UWINS, R. A.; as these afford data for biographical notices, and frequently illustrate the original purposes of many graphical and literary publications, their origin and vicissitudes arising from a variety of causes, I enclose another, addressed to Alderman Moon, in the hope you will deem it worthy of adoption.

Clapham, Nov. 3. P.

38, Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square.
June 9, 1834.

Mr. Uwins presents compliments to Mr. Moon, and wishes to know at what day and hour he may have some conversation with him. As Mr. Uwins is never in the City except for particular business he would not like to go on an uncertainty.

To prepare the way and to save unnecessary trouble Mr. Uwins will just explain that when at Naples he made a good many sketches in pen and ink of the scenery: which sketches he has been advised by artists and amateurs who have seen them to publish. With this view he had one etched by Young Lewis as a specimen, and he wishes to shew both the drawings and this etching to Mr. Moon, and to consult with him on the mode of publication. In truth he wishes the thing to be taken out of his hands by some publisher, but he does not know whether it would be in Mr. Moon's way of business.

The plan would be to publish five numbers each containing six etchings. The work to be called Scenery of the Bay of Naples, by Mr. Uwins.

Besides being a matter of interest to travellers the publication might command a sale as a drawing book, and be purchased by students in art.

Of the character of the drawings Mr. Moon may enquire of Mr. Howard, Mr. Eastlake, Mr. Cook, Mr. Briggs, and other artists, by whom they have been seen.

The Current Notes are now complete in 7 vols., any of which may be had, bound in cloth, for 3*s* each.

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